

ARMY



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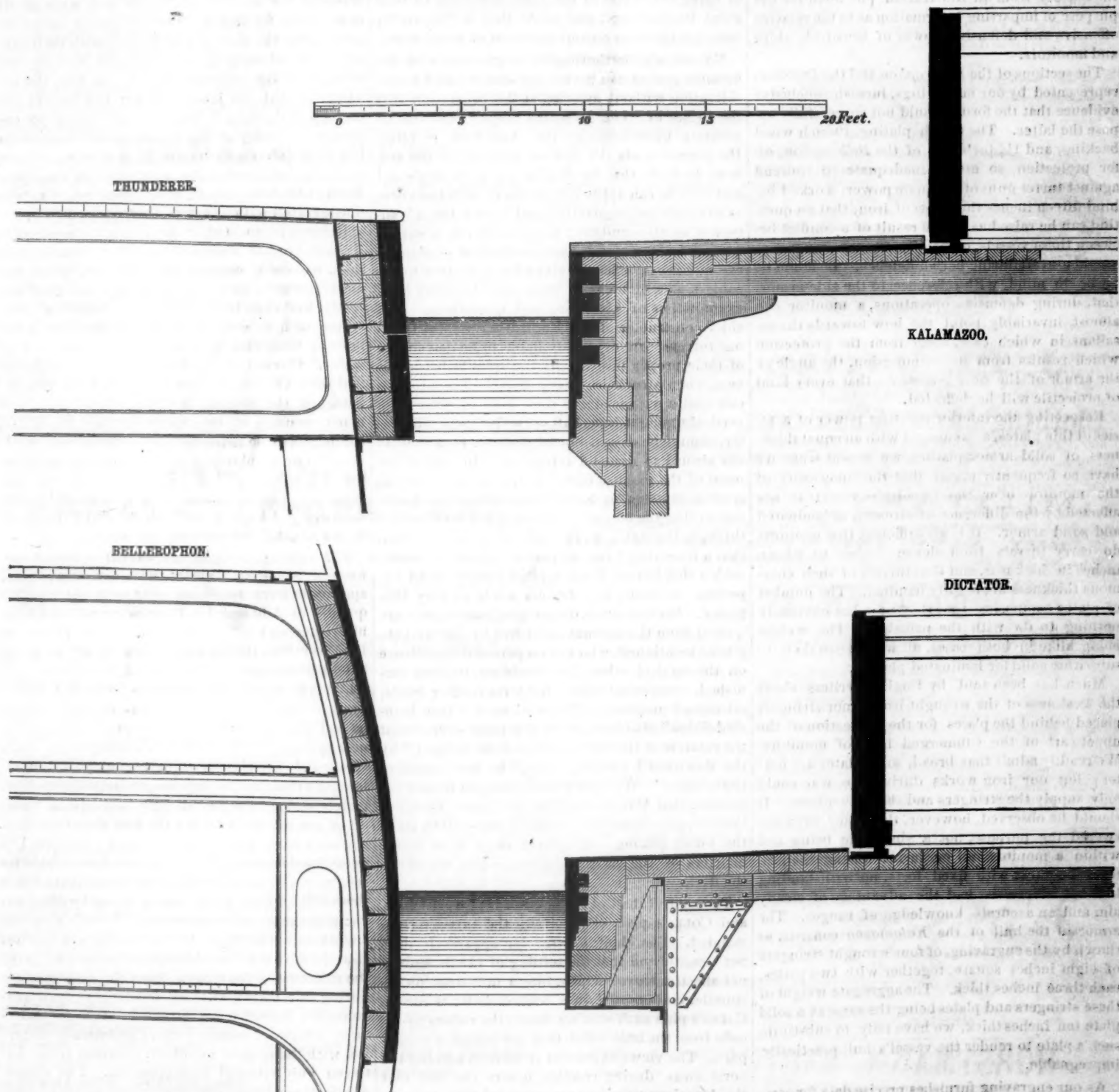
AND VOLUNTEER
FORCES.

VOLUME VII.—NUMBER 26.
WHOLE NUMBER 338.

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1870.

SIX DOLLARS PER YEAR.
SINGLE COPIES, FIFTEEN CENTS.

ENGLISH AND AMERICAN IRON-CLADS COMPARED.



THE chapter on turret ships, and the tabular statement of the strength of armor-plating of the English iron-clad fleet, contained in Mr. REED's recent work, "Our Iron-clad Ships," cannot fail to attract attention on this side of the Atlantic.

An examination of Mr. REED's tables shows that the iron-clad fleet of England is by no means so formidable in point of armor as supposed. Not less than twenty-four ships, nearly all first class, are protected by only $4\frac{1}{2}$ -inch armor-plating; while, according to the dimensions specified in the

tables, the average thickness of the solid plates of the entire iron-clad navy is somewhat under six inches. In view of this fact, it is, to say the least, inconsistent on the part of Mr. REED to contrast, as he has done, by pictorial representations, the side-armor of the *Dictator* with that of his last and strongest—not yet completed—vessel, the *Thunderer*, which is wholly unlike any other or the English iron-clad ships. The accompanying illustrations, drawn to scale with great exactness, furnish data which place the question of comparative strength in quite a different light from that

in which Mr. REED presents it, and enable us to judge accurately of the power of resistance of the boasted broadside iron-clads as compared with our monitors. We might with perfect propriety have contrasted the strength of our smaller turret vessels of the *Passaic* class, carrying eleven inches thickness of battery, with the English broadsides whose guns are protected with only four and a half inches solid plating, since fully one-half of the entire fleet carries that light armor; but, in order to present the question in an aspect more favorable to the English, w

have selected the *Bellerophon* for comparison, her solid armor-plating representing the average thickness of the whole English armored fleet. We have, however, not followed Mr. REED's example, of contrasting our thickest side-armor with that of the English average strength. Accordingly, we have placed the section of the *Dictator* against that of the *Bellerophon*, and the section of the *Kalamazoo* against that of the *Thunderer*.

We cannot pass unnoticed Mr. REED's deceptive method of keeping the strength of the battery out of view in comparing the resisting power of iron-clads. No one understands better than the constructor of the "breastwork monitor" *Thunderer* the leading feature of the monitor system, the submerging the hull so nearly as to render the side-armor of but secondary importance. Besides, the side-armor of a monitor is not intended to protect the guns. We need scarcely urge that, under such circumstances, it is highly improper to exclude the battery from an illustration put forth for the purpose of imparting information as to the relative offensive and defensive power of broadside ships and monitors.

The sections of the *Bellerophon* and the *Dictator*, represented by our engravings, furnish conclusive evidence that the former could not successfully oppose the latter. The 6-inch plating, 10-inch wood backing, and 1½-inch skin of the *Bellerophon*, offer protection so utterly inadequate to contend against turret guns of adequate power, worked behind fifteen inches thickness of iron, that no question can be raised as to the result of a conflict between these vessels, especially at such ranges as would prevail during harbor defence. It should be borne in mind, with reference to the side-armor, that, during defensive operations, a monitor can almost invariably point the bow towards the assailant, in which case, apart from the protection which results from deep immersion, the angle of the armor of the bow is so acute that every kind of projectile will be deflected.

Respecting the inferior resisting power of a series of thin plates, as compared with an equal thickness of solid armor-plating, we repeat what we have so frequently urged, that the superiority of the monitor over the broadside vessel is not affected by the difference of strength of laminated and solid armor. It is all-sufficient that monitors do carry turrets from eleven inches to fifteen inches in thickness, and that turrets of such enormous thickness are readily handled. The number of plates composing that thickness has obviously nothing to do with the principle. The weight being alike in both cases, all we have to do is to substitute solid for laminated plating.

Much has been said by English writers about the weakness of the wrought-iron armor-stringers placed behind the plates for the protection of the upper part of the submerged hulls of monitors. We readily admit that broad, solid plates are better; but our iron works during the war could only supply the stringers and the thin plates. It should be observed, however, that they fully answered the purpose, not a single life being lost within a monitor hull or turret during the protracted contest with fixed forts, notwithstanding that our adversaries had the advantage of steady aim and an accurate knowledge of ranges. The armor of the hull of the *Kalamazoo* consists, as shown by the engraving, of four wrought stringers of eight inches square, together with two plates, each three inches thick. The aggregate weight of these stringers and plates being the same as a solid plate ten inches thick, we have only to substitute such a plate to render the vessel's hull practically impregnable.

As our engraving furnishes precise data for comparing the armor of English and American iron-clads, and also points out very clearly the unsatisfactory character of the pictorial representations in Mr. REED's work, we dismiss the subject of armor-plating and pass on to the chapter headed "Turret Ships." We do not propose to criticise Mr. REED's views with reference to the turrets applied to full-rigged ships, or his disparaging comparisons between COLES's turret ship the *Captain* and the broadside ship *Hercules*; but we cannot refrain from observing that while his demonstration about the importance of an all-round fire

is unanswerable and fatal to COLES's ship, he over-estimates the advantage of the "simultaneous fire of the *Hercules* in six separate directions," and commits a serious mistake in assuming that four guns in two turrets can only fire in two directions. If loading, aiming, and firing could all be effected in an instant, the argument would no doubt be sound; but such not being the case, the firing may alternate, viz., one gun may fire while the other is being loaded. By this method objects separated thirty degrees may be kept under fire as effectually as if two guns in broadside were applied. Evidently, the turret may be as well moved from a given position and returned to it, during loading, as to remain stationary. Indeed, reasons are not wanting why it is better to keep moving than remaining still. We have alluded to this subject to correct the general impression that both guns in a monitor turret must necessarily fire in the same direction. Mr. REED deems the assumed necessity of firing both guns in the same direction to be a great disadvantage, and thinks that it "assuredly deserves the most serious attention of naval men."

No one who is thoroughly acquainted with the monitor system can peruse the chapter under consideration without arriving at the conclusion that the author of "Our Iron-clad Ships" possesses no accurate knowledge of the American monitor. He comprehends the general features of the system; he finds that by dispensing with freeboard and sails he can apply side-armor of such thickness as to insure impregnability and secure the advantage of an all-round fire; but he evidently is not acquainted with the mechanical detail of an American monitor, nor has he given due reflection to the subject, as will be seen from the following brief examination of his views and quotations. The chief constructor of the English navy thinks that our turrets "are especially liable to be driven out of their proper position by the spindle becoming bent when struck by heavy shot." The proposition that a weight of 200 tons, kept in place by a vertical wrought-iron shaft of twelve inches diameter, should be driven out of position by a shot, is too absurd to demand refutation. In disparagement of the monitor turret, he quotes an erroneous account written by a civil engineer at St. Louis concerning the *base ring*, although it is well known through BOURNE's work and other publications, that a base ring forms no part of a monitor turret, such a ring having been applied simply as an expedient to strengthen turrets made of very thin plates. Several other disparaging statements are quoted from the account published by the civil engineer mentioned, who has no personal experience on the subject other than building, to plans furnished, some small turrets for certain river boats, misnamed monitors. The readers of "Our Iron-clad Ships" also learn from the same source that the rotation of the turret is liable to be stopped "by the downward swelling caused by the impact of heavy shot." We have pointed out, on former occasions, that this assumption is a gross mistake; that stoppage from such a cause is impossible, since the outer plating—comprising more than three-quarters of the entire thickness—does not reach the deck.

The central shaft of the monitor is also criticised, and COLES's plan of revolving the turret recommended. The chief constructor apparently does not comprehend that the settling of the deck does not affect a turret which, like a mill-stone on its spindle, is supported on a central shaft; while on COLES's plan such settling causes the rollers to recede from the base which they are intended to support. The views expressed relative to turning the ports away during conflict ignore the fact that the American monitors are provided with massive port-stoppers, which are always shut except at the moment of firing. The important circumstance is also wholly overlooked that the turret, during an engagement with a single opponent, is always kept in position by the officer in charge, the gunner having in fact nothing to do with lateral aim; he fires whenever the roll or elevation suits. Again, a single-turreted monitor, in nearly all cases, fires over the bow, obviously uninfluenced by the rolling, and but little affected by the state of the weather, as it happens but seldom that the ports are flooded when pointed towards the bow.

The assumed "bending" of the turret shaft is purely imaginary, as the following explanation will show. The deck ring which supports the base of the turret rests upon four bulkheads, all as deep as the vessel, two being placed transversely and two longitudinally. The tops of these bulkheads cannot be, and never have been, out of a true plane in our monitors with iron hulls. Wooden monitors, be it observed, are makeshifts, incompatible with the turret system. As no constructor understands this better than Mr. REED, why does he put before his readers, as a serious objection against the monitor turret, the statement of an inexperienced civil engineer concerning the settling of the deck of the wooden turret vessel *Miantonomoh*? And why does he advance as a point against the system the fact that the base of our wooden vessels had "coats round the turrets to keep them water-tight" while crossing the ocean? He knows that the turrets of the monitor fleet, exposed to the waves of the Atlantic during the war, were at all times ready for action. Those who saw the monitors during the gale off Fort Fisher, with their turrets half submerged, can estimate exactly the strength of the objection urged. In fine, the assumption that the joint between the base of the turret and the deck is liable to leak so as to endanger the safety of the vessel, is mere conjecture based on inferences drawn by those who are not correctly informed of the true cause of the foundering of the original *Monitor*—an accident wholly unconnected with any defects of construction.

Referring to the "breastwork monitors" *Thunderer* and *Devastation*, without masts and sails, we are of opinion that they will prove the most powerful ships in existence; but they are costly, first-class iron ships, protected with solid armor, such as only England can produce at the present time, and they draw twenty-five feet of water. Our experienced naval officers well know that such vessels are not calculated for the defence of the several harbors, dock-yards, and maritime cities of this country; they know that the points to be defended are too numerous to admit of our employing such costly structures as the *Thunderer* and *Devastation*; and that the American monitor, with its impregnable turret, submerged hull, and light draught of water, is better adapted for our shallow waters.

The writer of the chapter on turret ships, apart from his erroneous views of the American monitor, appears to have forgotten what took place subsequently to Admiral Du Pont being relieved from his command at Charleston. The report of Du Pont that the monitors "are totally unfit for blockading duties" being quoted, it will be asked, why is the report of his successor, Admiral DAHLGREN, omitted? The former was detached before he had time to become at all acquainted with the new system; while the latter, during two years, blockaded Charleston with the monitors so effectually that the Confederate stronghold was completely sealed. The report of the several commanders of the monitors during the first demonstration against Charleston, under Du Pont's command, is quoted as decisive against the monitor turret; but no reference whatever is made to the important fact that these officers were wholly inexperienced with them, and that the vessels were brought directly from the engine establishments to the enemy's batteries. Had the fleet not been brought into action again, the reference to the reports from the commanders during this their first essay would have been unavoidable; but what are the facts? Admiral DAHLGREN afterward engaged the Confederate batteries, with these same monitors, nineteen times between July 18th and September 8th. The report of this experienced commander and accomplished naval artillerist concludes thus: "The battering received was without precedent. The *Montauk* had been struck two hundred and fourteen times, the *Weehawken* one hundred and eighty-seven times, and almost entirely with 10-inch shot."

CAPTAIN J. MacDougall, of the Danish Royal Navy, is now on a mission to the United States to study the improvements that have been made in armor-plated ships of war since the return of General Von Rastoff from America, where he was formerly accredited as the Danish Envoy at Washington.

THE ARMY.

As the accounting officers of the United States Treasury have refused, under the bounty acts of July 22 and July 29, 1861, and March 3, 1864, to pay such bounties to colored soldiers and seamen who were slaves on the 19th day of April, 1861, a joint resolution has been introduced in Congress directing that all discrimination in the payment of bounties, on account of race, color, or servitude, be abolished, and that in the adjustment and payment of bounties under such acts, all colored soldiers and seamen, and their heirs, be placed on an equal footing with white soldiers, seamen, and their heirs.

FREQUENT complaint having been made by discharged soldiers applying for re-enlistment, that on discharge from service, and transfer of their "final statements" to the post trader, they had been "compelled to leave their parchment discharges with the trader as a part of the final statements," the attention of all officers, soldiers, and post traders in the Department of Dakota has been called to printed note No. three on the blank form for final statements, which clearly explains the proper manner of effecting the transfer. After the discharge has been endorsed as therein directed, it is made the duty of the officer signing the discharge to give it in person to the man discharged, with instructions to keep it, and under no circumstances can he be compelled to part with it.

By command of Major-General Hancock, subject to the approval of the Secretary of War, the metes and bounds of the public lands, reserved to the United States for military purposes, and declared to be the military reservation of the post of Fort Ellis, Montana Territory, are announced in General Orders. The commanding officer of Fort Ellis will cause to be erected at the apex of each of the four angles of the northern boundaries of the above described reservation a square cut stone, one foot on the edge and three and one half feet in length, firmly imbedded eighteen inches in the ground. On the inner surface of each stone the letters "U. S." will be chiselled or cut; on the outer face of each stone will be painted the words "Military Reservation." The apex of each of the other angles of the reservation will be marked by a large mound of loose stones.

A COMPANY of the Fifth Artillery from Fort Adams— to be designated by the colonel of the regiment—has been ordered to immediately proceed to, and take post at, Fort Trumbull, Connecticut, relieving the company of the First Artillery now there, which company, on being relieved, proceeds to, and takes post at, Fort Delaware, Delaware, relieving the companies of the Fourth Artillery. Brevet Major-General John M. Brannan, major First Artillery, proceeds to and assumes command of Fort Delaware, Delaware, relieving Major Joseph Stewart, Fourth Artillery. On being relieved by the company of the First Artillery as above, the two companies of the Fourth Artillery now at Fort Delaware, Delaware, proceed under the command of Major Stewart, Fourth Artillery, to New York harbor, and then embark for Morehead City, N. C., and thence proceed to take post at Fort Macon.

COMPANY E, Sixteenth Infantry, has been relieved from duty at the post of Jackson, Miss., and under the command of Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel J. S. Fletcher, Jr., Captain Sixteenth Infantry, ordered to proceed to and take station at Corinth, Miss. First Lieutenant George H. Palmer, U. S. Army (unattached), is ordered to report in person to Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel J. S. Fletcher, Jr., for duty with Company E. Brevet Major Placidus Ord, first lieutenant U. S. Army (unattached), has been assigned to duty as acting assistant quartermaster and acting commissary of subsistence of the post of Corinth, to report in person to Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel J. S. Fletcher, Jr., captain Sixteenth Infantry, who will place under his command a detachment of Company E, Sixteenth Infantry, with which he will at once proceed to Corinth and relieve the detachment of the Second Infantry now at that post.

On the 1st inst., Brevet Major-General Ed. R. S. Canby assumed command of the Department of Virginia, embracing the States of Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, and North Carolina. The following officers are announced as the personal and department staff at headquarters: First Lieutenant Louis V. Caziarc, U. S. Army, aide-de-camp and acting assistant adjutant-general; Second Lieutenant Harry R. Anderson, Fourth U. S. Artillery, aide-de-camp; Second Lieutenant Charles S. Heintzelman, Third U. S. Artillery, aide-de-camp; Lieutenant-Colonel Dickinson Woodruff, U. S. Army, acting assistant inspector-general; Brevet Colonel John Moore, surgeon U. S. Army, medical director; Major Horace B

Burnham, judge-advocate U. S. Army, judge-advocate; Brevet Colonel John G. Chandler, quartermaster U. S. Army, chief quartermaster; Brevet Major Samuel A. Porter, first lieutenant, regimental quartermaster Seventeenth U. S. Infantry, chief commissary of subsistence; Major Thaddeus H. Stanton, paymaster U. S. Army, chief paymaster.

ALL enlisted men and laundresses then at Angel Island awaiting transportation to Fort Yuma, California, and posts in Arizona, were ordered to be sent by steamer of the 26th January to the mouth of the Colorado river, thence by water to Fort Yuma, California. They were to be conducted by Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel I. R. Dunkelberger, captain First Cavalry; the following-named officers to report to Colonel Dunkelberger for duty, and accompany the detachment, viz.: Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel M. H. Stacey, captain Twelfth Infantry; Brevet Captain Greenleaf Cilley, first lieutenant First Cavalry; Brevet Captain E. G. Fechet, first lieutenant Eighth Cavalry; Second Lieutenant G. R. Bacon, First Cavalry; Assistant Surgeon B. F. Pope, U. S. Army, and Assistant Surgeon John D. Hall, U. S. Army. Captain Fechet proceeds to Camp Bowie, A. T., and reports for duty with Company G, Eighth Cavalry, to which he is temporarily attached. Colonel Dunkelberger proceeds to Camp Grant, and reports for duty with his company—taking with him such men as may be for Camps Grant and Goodwin. Colonel Stacey reports for duty with his company at Camp Mohave.

BREVET Major-General E. Hatch, colonel commanding the Ninth U. S. Cavalry, Fort Davis, Texas, on the 17th of January issued the following regimental order:

With regret, the colonel commanding announces to the regiment the death of Captain James G. Birney, Ninth U. S. Cavalry, on Sunday, January 16, 1870, at twenty minutes past 7 A. M., after a brief illness.

Captain Birney entered the service, among the first to answer the call for volunteers, September, 1861, as a private in the Seventh Michigan Cavalry.

He was promoted second lieutenant January 24, 1863; and as a reward for his noble and gallant conduct in defending his regimental colors at the battle of Gettysburg, where he was captured, and afterward by his daring escape, he was promoted first lieutenant, August 1, 1863.

In March, 1864, he was promoted captain, which rank he held till the close of the war, when he was appointed a second lieutenant in the Ninth U. S. Cavalry. He was promoted first lieutenant, April 14, 1867; captain, December 1, 1869; and was breveted first lieutenant and captain U. S. Army, for gallant conduct at the battle of Gettysburg.

As a brave officer, worthy gentleman, and esteemed friend, he will long be remembered and mourned by all who knew him.

The officers of the regiment will wear the prescribed badge of mourning for thirty days.

THE following account of two brave acts we find in the Boston Traveller of last week: On last Wednesday, as the Fort Warren tug boat was making its regular outward trip, having on board a party of soldiers returning to the fort, one of them, who was slightly under the influence of liquor, climbed up on the gunwale of the boat, lost his balance, and fell, striking his head against a spike, which cut an ugly gash over the left eye, rendering him insensible. He sank almost immediately, coming up again about ten yards from the boat, and was sinking for the second time, when Lieutenant Zalinski (Fifth U. S. Artillery) sprang over the side to save him, without divesting himself of his overcoat. The lieutenant swam towards the drowning man and caught him, when both sank like so much lead. The lieutenant gained the surface again with his burden, and was sinking for the second time, when Michael Brown, a private, about 22 years of age, sprang to the rescue, thereby risking a third life. He came up behind them, and by dint of hard shoving and swimming, succeeded in getting them near enough to the boat to be pulled on board, all three being insensible when they gained the deck. The young man who performed this noble deed was brought up in this city, and served in the Army during the late war. He has since been promoted to the rank of corporal.

In accordance with General Orders No. 3, Headquarters Department of Virginia, Richmond, Va., February 5, 1870, the following movements of troops will be executed without unnecessary delay: Companies E and F, Seventeenth Infantry, will proceed to, and take post at Raleigh, North Carolina, relieving the companies of the Eighth Infantry now at that post and at Chapel Hill. Brevet-Colonel Samuel B. Hayman, lieutenant-colonel Seventeenth Infantry, is assigned to the command. Companies A, H, I, and K, Seventeenth Infantry, will proceed to Camp Grant, Richmond, Virginia, for duty at that post. Companies K and L, Fourth Artillery, designated by General Orders No. 1, of January 31, 1870, Headquarters Military Division of the Atlantic, for the

post of Fort Macon, North Carolina, will relieve the companies of the Eighth Infantry stationed at that post. Company G, Fourth Artillery, will proceed to Fort Johnson, North Carolina, and there take post, relieving the company of the Eighth Infantry now stationed at that post. The companies of the Eighth Infantry now serving in North Carolina, when relieved as above specified, will proceed without delay to such points in the Department of the South as may be designated by the commander of that department. The posts of Petersburg, Lynchburg, Winchester, Norfolk, and Farmville, Virginia, and Chapel Hill, North Carolina, will be discontinued, and the proper staff officers will make the necessary arrangements for the care and disposition of the public property not transferred with the troops to other points. Post commanders will take advantage of the present concentration of troops and relief from other duties to give the utmost attention to the instruction and improvement of their commands, and to the reduction of expenditures by the discharge of civilian employees, and by sending to their companies all enlisted men now employed upon extra or special duty that are not absolutely indispensable. Inspecting officers in making their inspections will give special attention to these subjects.

ABSTRACT OF SPECIAL ORDERS

Issued from the Adjutant-General's Office for the week ending February 7, 1870.

Tuesday, February 1st.

By direction of the Secretary of War, the unexecuted portion of the sentence of a General Court-martial, promulgated in General Court-martial Orders No. 7, of January 17, 1870, from headquarters Department of the East, directing Private Patrick McElwee, Company C, Twelfth U. S. Infantry, "to forfeit to the United States seven-eighths of his monthly pay for the period of one year, and to be confined at hard labor in charge of the guard at Governor's Island, New York Harbor, for the same period, wearing a ball weighing twenty-four pounds attached to the left leg by a chain three and one half feet long," is hereby remitted. He will be discharged the service of the United States upon the receipt of this order at the place where he may be confined.

Upon the expiration of the extension of leave of absence granted him in Special Orders No. 8, January 11, 1869, from this office, Brevet Major W. F. Spurgin, first lieutenant Twenty-fourth U. S. Infantry, will report in person to the commanding officer Fort Columbus, New York Harbor, to accompany a detachment of recruits to the Eleventh U. S. Infantry. On the completion of this duty he will join his proper station.

Captain H. J. Ripley, unattached, will report in person without delay to the commanding general Department of the Missouri, for assignment to duty.

Second Lieutenant James A. Hiff, Twenty-fourth U. S. Infantry, will, at his own request, be dropped from the rolls of his regiment, and proceed to his home and await orders.

Upon the mutual application of the officers concerned the following transfers are hereby announced: First Lieutenant Joseph Karge from Company A, Eighth U. S. Cavalry, to Company H, Ninth U. S. Infantry, and First Lieutenant George F. Foote, brevet captain, from Company H, Ninth U. S. Infantry, to Company A, Eighth U. S. Cavalry. The officers thus transferred will, at the expiration of their present leaves of absence, join their proper stations.

Brevet Brigadier-General George A. H. Blake, colonel First U. S. Cavalry, is hereby detailed as superintendent of Mounted Recruiting Service. He will repair to Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania, April 1, 1870, and relieve Brevet Brigadier-General John P. Hatch, major Fourth U. S. Cavalry, of those duties, and of all property, funds, and records pertaining thereto. General Hatch, upon being relieved, will proceed to join his regiment in the Fifth Military District.

By direction of the Secretary of War, Brevet Major-General W. L. Elliott, lieutenant-colonel First U. S. Cavalry, will be relieved from duty in the Department of the Lakes, and will proceed to Fort Vancouver, Washington Territory, in time to assume command of his regiment April 1, 1870.

Wednesday, February 2d.

By direction of the President, the telegraphic order of the 1st instant, from this office, directing Brevet Major-General A. H. Terry, brigadier-general U. S. Army, to repair to this city on public business, is hereby confirmed. Upon the completion of this duty, he will return to his proper station.

The leave of absence granted First Lieutenant E. H. Totten, Thirteenth U. S. Infantry, acting signal officer, in Special Orders No. 9, January 15, 1870, from headquarters Department of Dakota, is hereby extended sixty days.

Brevet Captain J. J. S. Hassler, first lieutenant, unattached, will proceed to his home and await orders.

First Lieutenant George S. Grimes, unattached, will proceed without delay to Fort Whipple, Virginia, and report thence by letter to the chief signal officer of the Army.

General Orders No. 7, January 19, 1870, from headquarters Department of Louisiana, appointing the following-named officers aide-de-camp to Brevet Major-General Smith, commanding, to take effect from January 7, 1870, is hereby confirmed: Captain George Baldey, unattached; Captain Luke O'Reilly, unattached.

Brevet Major William Nelson, captain, unattached, will repair to this city for the purpose of settling his accounts with the Government as soon as his services can be dispensed with by the superintendent General Recruiting Service, Cincinnati, Ohio.

The leave of absence granted First Lieutenant E. C.

Hentig, Sixth U. S. Cavalry, in Special Orders No. 800, December 23, 1869, from headquarters Fifth Military District, is hereby extended four months.

Thursday, February 3d.

The following-named officers, unattached, are hereby relieved from duty in the Fourth Military District, and will proceed to their homes and await orders: Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Edmund Rice, first lieutenant; Brevet Major Placidus Ord, first lieutenant; Brevet Captain A. Wishart, first lieutenant; Brevet Captain George S. Spalding, first lieutenant; Brevet Captain A. E. Niles, first lieutenant; First Lieutenant George H. Palmer; First Lieutenant E. C. Gaskill.

Permission to delay reporting at his proper station for fifteen days is hereby granted Brevet First Lieutenant S. C. Vedder, Nineteenth U. S. Infantry.

The telegraphic order of the 2d instant, from this office, directing the commanding general Department of Virginia to order the officers whose services he could dispense with to their homes, to await orders, is hereby confirmed.

Brevet Brigadier-General D. B. McKibbin, major, unattached, is hereby detailed on recruiting service, and will report in person without delay to Brevet Major-General Hoffman, superintendent General Recruiting Service, St. Louis, Missouri, for assignment to duty.

The following-named hospital stewards, U. S. Army, will be discharged the service of the United States upon the receipt of this order at the places where they may be serving: Samuel J. Bradley, George Hinds.

On the recommendation of the regimental commander, the following transfers in the Second U. S. Artillery are hereby announced: Second Lieutenant John A. Gifford from Company F to Company H; Second Lieutenant David A. Lyle from Company B to Company I. Lieutenant Lyle will report without delay to his proper station.

Second Lieutenant Thomas B. Reed, late Twenty-ninth Infantry, having declined the transfer to the Ninth Cavalry, announced in General Orders No. 59, from this office, July 24, 1869, he is, by direction of the President, transferred to Company B, Twenty-fourth U. S. Infantry, and will, upon the receipt of this order, report for duty to his company commander.

By direction of the Secretary of War, and on recommendation of Department of the Interior, the following-named officers, unattached, are hereby relieved from duty as Indian agents, and will repair to their homes and await orders: Brevet Major J. A. Hearn, captain; Captain W. H. Merrill, Captain O. C. Knapp, First Lieutenant J. S. Styles.

By direction of the Secretary of War, the following-named officers are hereby detailed to execute the duties of Indian agents, under and by authority of the act of Congress organizing the Indian Department, approved June 30, 1834. They will report by letter without delay to Hon. E. S. Parker, Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C., for assignment to duty and for instructions: Captain D. M. Sells, unattached; First Lieutenant W. R. Bourne, unattached.

By direction of the Secretary of War, Brevet Captain B. M. Platt, second lieutenant, unattached, is hereby relieved from duty at the War Department, and will report in person without delay to Brevet Major-General Howard, Commissioner of the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands, for duty as aide-de-camp.

By direction of the Secretary of War, First Lieutenant William Stone, unattached, is hereby assigned to duty at the War Department, and will report in person without delay to Brevet Major D. J. Downing, acting superintendent War Department Buildings, for duty.

Friday, February 4th.

Major William McE. Dye (brevet colonel), Fourth U. S. Infantry, will, at his own request, be dropped from the rolls of his regiment, and proceed to his home and await orders.

By direction of the President, Major Alexander Chambers (brevet colonel), U. S. Army, unassigned, is hereby transferred to the Fourth U. S. Infantry, and will report in person without delay, and at his own expense, to the commanding general Department of the Platte for assignment to duty.

The resignation of First Lieutenant Francis J. Dunn, Twenty-second U. S. Infantry, has been accepted by the President, to take effect from January 31, 1870, on condition that he receive no final payment until he shall have satisfied the Pay Department that he is not indebted to the United States.

Superintendent E. McMahon, national cemetery at Fredericksburg, Virginia, is hereby granted leave of absence for fifteen days, to take effect from such date as the chief quartermaster, Department of Virginia, may indicate.

The stoppage of \$53 50 for two cavalry pistols charged against Sergeant Robert Farrell, on the muster rolls of Company C, Fifth U. S. Cavalry, for the loss of which Sergeant Farrell was not properly held responsible, will be transferred to the account of Brevet Major Thomas E. Maley, Fifth U. S. Cavalry, for ordnance stores, he having failed to take proper precautions to prevent the loss or ascertain it about the time it occurred.

Private John Dillon, Artillery Detachment, now supposed to be at West Point, New York, having been appointed hospital steward, U. S. Army, by the Secretary of War, will report in person to the commanding general Department of California for assignment to duty.

The unexecuted portion of the sentence of a General Court-martial, promulgated in General Court-martial Orders No. 4, of January 15, 1870, from headquarters Department of the East, directing that Sergeant Patrick Donnelly, Company I, Fourth U. S. Artillery, "be reduced to the rank of a private soldier, to be confined at hard labor under charge of the guard for six months, wearing a twelve-pound ball attached to his leg by a chain, and to forfeit ten dollars of his monthly pay for the same period," is hereby remitted, and the soldier will be restored to duty with his command.

By direction of the Secretary of War, the Quarter-

master's Department will furnish Andrew C. Hoffmaster, formerly private of Company C, Thirtieth U. S. Infantry, with transportation from Milwaukee, Wisconsin, to this city, to enable him to enter the Soldiers' Home, the cost of which will be refunded to the Quartermaster's Department by the surgeon-general U. S. Army, from the fund appropriated for the benefit of discharged soldiers by the act of Congress approved July 5, 1862.

By direction of the Secretary of War, the Quartermaster's Department will furnish Peter Gallagher, formerly private of Company I, First U. S. Infantry; Michael Sullivan, formerly private of Company E, Third U. S. Artillery; Robert Zahn, formerly private of Company I, Nineteenth U. S. Infantry; Charles E. Manning, formerly private of Company F, Forty-fifth U. S. Infantry; and Patrick Conway, formerly private of Company A, Forty-fourth U. S. Infantry, with transportation from Dayton, Ohio, to this city, to enable them to enter the Soldiers' Home, the cost of which will be refunded to the Quartermaster's Department by the surgeon-general U. S. Army, from the fund appropriated for the benefit of discharged soldiers by the act of Congress approved July 5, 1862.

Saturday, February 5th.

Captain George B. Hoge, unattached, having reported to this office for orders, in compliance with instructions from headquarters Fifth Military District, is hereby placed on waiting orders, and will, when able to travel, proceed to his home.

Brevet Captain F. C. Von Schirach, first lieutenant unattached, is hereby relieved from duty in the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands, and will proceed to his home and await orders.

First Lieutenant Charles Garretson, unattached, is hereby detailed for duty in the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands, and will report to Brevet Major-General Howard, commissioner of said bureau, for assignment to duty in the State of Texas.

First Lieutenant W. H. Campion, unattached, is hereby relieved from duty in the Fourth Military District, and will proceed to his home and await orders.

Monday, February 7th.

The extension of leave of absence granted Second Lieutenant John Gotshall, Tenth U. S. Infantry, in Special Orders No. 25, January 31, 1870, from this office, is hereby further extended thirty days.

By direction of the Secretary of War, Private Charles H. Marriott, Company C, Fifth U. S. Artillery, now serving with his command, will be discharged the service of the United States upon condition that he furnish an acceptable able-bodied man for enlistment in that command to fill the vacancy caused by his discharge.

Hospital Steward Richard Youmans, U. S. Army, will be discharged the service of the United States upon the receipt of this order at the place where he may be serving, for incompetency.

RELATING TO RETIRED OFFICERS.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, WASHINGTON,
January 25, 1870.

GENERAL ORDERS No. 9.

THE following act of Congress is published for the information and guidance of all concerned:

AN ACT relating to retired officers of the Army.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That no retired officer of the Army shall hereafter be assigned to duty of any kind, or be entitled to receive more than the pay and allowances provided by law for retired officers of his grade; and all such assignments heretofore made shall terminate within thirty days from the passage of this act.

SEC. 2. And be it further enacted, That all laws and parts of laws inconsistent with the provisions of this act be, and the same are hereby, repealed.

Approved January 31, 1870.

By command of General Sherman.

E. D. TOWNSEND, Adjutant-General.

In the Senate of the United States, January 23, 1870, Mr. Wilson introduced the following bill, which was read twice, referred to the Committee on Military Affairs, and ordered to be printed:

A BILL to authorize the settlement of the accounts of officers of the Army and Navy.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the proper accounting officers of the Treasury be, and they are hereby, authorized, in the settlement of the accounts of disbursing officers of the War and Navy Departments arising since the commencement of the Rebellion, and prior to the twentieth day of August, eighteen hundred and sixty-six, to allow such credits for over-payments, and for losses of funds, vouchers, and property, as they may deem just and reasonable, when recommended under authority of the Secretaries of War and Navy, by the heads of the military and naval bureaus to which such accounts respectively pertain.

SEC. 2. And be it further enacted, That the accounts of military and naval officers, whether of the line or staff, for Government property charged to them, may be closed by the proper accounting officers whenever, in their judgment, it will be for the interest of the United States so to do: Provided, That such accounts originated prior to the twentieth day of August, eighteen hundred and sixty-six.

BASED upon the action of the Chief of Ordnance of the Army, indicating that the presence in Washington of Major John W. Todd, Ordnance Corps U. S. A., was necessary for the public service, the leave of absence for twenty days, granted him from headquarters Department of Louisiana, has been so modified as to direct Major Todd to proceed from New Orleans, La., to Washington, D. C., and return to Baton Rouge, La., on business connected with his department.

ARMY PERSONAL.

THE contract of Acting Assistant Surgeon W. G. Robinson, U. S. Army, has been annulled, to take effect January 20, 1870.

LEAVE of absence for fifteen days was granted Brevet Colonel Clermont L. Beat, major First U. S. Artillery, February 7th.

THE leave of absence granted Captain S. C. Plummer, Seventh Cavalry, Department of the Missouri, has been extended ten days.

LEAVE of absence for thirty days was, January 29th, granted Major Nicholas Vedder, paymaster U. S. Army, Department of Louisiana.

FIRST Lieutenant William Crosby, U. S. Army (unattached), having reported at headquarters Department of California, has been placed on "awaiting orders."

ACTING Assistant Surgeon D. B. Hoffman has been ordered to report for duty to the commanding officer at San Diego, California, as medical officer of that station.

AT his own request, and upon the recommendation of the medical director of the Fifth District, the contract of Acting Assistant Surgeon Daniel McLean, U. S. Army, has been annulled.

SECOND Lieutenant Hiram F. Winchester, Sixth U. S. Cavalry, on the 21st of January, was granted permission to apply to the Adjutant-General of the Army for an extension of thirty days to his leave of absence.

BREVET Major-General George Stoneman, commanding District of Arizona, was, January 15th, ordered to proceed to San Francisco, California, on special duty—reporting to headquarters Department of California.

LEAVE of absence for ten days has been granted Brevet Captain Charles Brewster, first lieutenant Seventh U. S. Cavalry; this leave to take effect when his services can be spared from his post, in Department of the Missouri.

BREVET Lieutenant-Colonel George H. Weeks, captain and assistant quartermaster U. S. Army, has been assigned to duty as depot quartermaster at St. Louis, Mo., relieving Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel C. W. Thomas, captain and assistant quartermaster.

LEAVE of absence for twenty days, with permission to leave the limits of the Fifth Military District and to apply to the Adjutant-General of the Army for an extension of fifty days, was, January 22d, granted Brevet Major Samuel M. Whitside, captain Sixth U. S. Cavalry.

LEAVE of absence for twenty days, with permission to leave the limits of the Fifth Military District and to apply to the Adjutant-General of the Army for an extension of ninety days, was, January 23d, granted Second Lieutenant Dominick Lynch, Jr., Fourth U. S. Cavalry.

LEAVE of absence for twenty days, with permission to leave the limits of the Fifth Military District and to apply to the Adjutant-General of the Army for an extension of four months, was, January 22d, granted Brevet Colonel Samuel H. Starr, Major Sixth U. S. Cavalry.

THE following officers were registered at headquarters Department of the East, for the week ending February 9, 1870: Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Henry Ellis, Fifteenth U. S. Infantry; Second Lieutenant J. A. Yeckley, Twentieth U. S. Infantry; Brevet Major J. H. Mahnken, Eighth U. S. Cavalry.

AFTER completing other duty assigned him, Assistant Surgeon Hall is ordered to proceed to Camp Grant, A. T., and relieve Acting Assistant Surgeon A. B. Lowe as medical officer at that post, and Acting Assistant Surgeon Lowe, on being relieved, will report to the medical director Department of California for the annulment of his contract.

BREVET Brigadier-General N. H. Davis, assistant inspector-general, has been ordered to proceed to Fort Harker and Larned, Kansas, and to such other points within the Department of the Missouri as may be necessary to carry out special instructions from the commanding general. When these duties have been completed he will return to headquarters.

A BILL appropriating \$1,200 to Major Gorden Chapin, United States Army, being the value of the household, kitchen furniture, and books belonging to him, lost, abandoned, and destroyed, at the time of the abandonment of Fort Buchanan, in the Territory of Arizona, on or about the 20th of July, 1861, has been introduced in the House of Representatives.

A BILL before the Military Committee of the Senate provides that the order of the board of examination of Army officers, dated February 15, 1862, placing George Andrews, lieutenant-colonel Sixth Infantry, U. S. Army, on the list of retired officers, be annulled; and that his name be placed upon the retired list, with the rank of colonel, with pay proper and rations of said rank, as of the date of February 15, 1862.

SECOND Lieutenant Quintin Campbell, Fifth U. S. Infantry, having been assigned to Company C of that regiment, was ordered, Feb. 4th, to proceed without delay from Fort Harker, Kansas, to the station of that company at Fort Wallace, Kansas, where he will report to the commanding officer of that post for duty; and Brevet Captain F. H. Hathaway, second lieutenant Fifth U. S. Infantry, having been appointed regimental adjutant of that regiment, was ordered to proceed without delay from Fort Wallace to Fort Harker, where he will report for duty to his regimental commander.

IN compliance with paragraph III, General Orders No. 59, series of 1869, from the headquarters of the Army, Second Lieutenant John Pope, Jr., First U. S. Artillery, was relieved, January 27th, from temporary duty at the headquarters Fifth Military District, and ordered without delay to join his company (I) at Fort Trumbull, New London, Connecticut. In accordance with the same order, Second Lieutenant George M. Harris, Fourth U. S. Artillery, was relieved from duty in the Fifth Military District, and will proceed without delay to join his company (K) at Fort Delaware, Delaware.

TRANSCRIPT from officers' register at headquarters Department of Louisiana, for the week ending January 29th: Captain J. H. Bradford, Nineteenth Infantry; First Lieutenant R. Vance, Nineteenth Infantry; Captain G. K. Sanderson, Eleventh Infantry; Brevet Major George L. Choisy, captain Twenty-fifth Infantry; Captain J. L. Smyth, Twenty-third Infantry; Brevet Major-General T. W. Sherman, colonel Third Artillery; First Lieutenant Lewis Smith, Third Artillery; Brevet Captain John F. Mount, first lieutenant Third Artillery; Brevet Captain George K. Dakin, first lieutenant Third Artillery; Acting Assistant Surgeon Wm. F. Cornick, U. S. Army; First Lieutenant George G. Lott, Eleventh Infantry; First Lieutenant E. C. Gilbreth, Eleventh Infantry.

COURTS-MARTIAL.

A GENERAL Court-martial was appointed to meet at the post of Jackson, Mississippi, February 7th. Detail for the court: Lieutenant-Colonel R. S. Granger, brevet major-general, Sixteenth Infantry; Captain D. M. Vance, brevet major, Sixteenth Infantry; First Lieutenant William H. Vinal, Sixteenth Infantry; First Lieutenant William Quinton, U. S. Army; First Lieutenant William J. Dawes, U. S. Army; First Lieutenant L. M. O'Brien, U. S. Army; First Lieutenant J. S. Appleton, U. S. Army. Captain C. R. Layton, brevet major, Sixteenth Infantry, judge-advocate.

A GENERAL Court-martial was appointed to meet at Fort Porter, Buffalo, N. Y., February 10, 1870. Detail for the court: Brevet Brigadier-General M. D. Hardin, major First U. S. Infantry; Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Sheldon Sturgeon, captain First U. S. Infantry; Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel R. E. Johnston, captain First U. S. Infantry; Brevet Major A. P. Caraher, first lieutenant First U. S. Infantry; First Lieutenant F. E. Pierce, First U. S. Infantry; Second Lieutenant D. M. Scott, First U. S. Infantry. First Lieutenant W. L. Foulk, U. S. Army, unattached, is appointed judge-advocate.

A GENERAL Court-martial was appointed to meet at Fort Columbus, New York harbor, February 11th. Detail for the court: Brevet Brigadier-General Thomas H. Neill, lieutenant-colonel U. S. Army, unattached; Captain E. N. Wilcox, U. S. Army, unattached; Brevet Major E. A. Belger, first lieutenant U. S. Army, unattached; Brevet Major G. Von Blucher, first lieutenant U. S. Army, unattached; First Lieutenant Cullen Bryant, Ordnance Department; First Lieutenant James Regan, U. S. Army, unattached; Brevet Captain Robert G. Rutherford, second lieutenant U. S. Army, unattached. Second Lieutenant Nathaniel Wolfe, Second U. S. Artillery, is appointed judge-advocate.

A GENERAL Court-martial has been commenced at Mobile, Ala., for the trial of Brevet Colonel C. E. Blunt, of the Engineer Corps. The following is the detail of the court: Brevet Brigadier-General James V. Bomford, colonel of Eighth Infantry; Brevet Major-General S. W. Crawford, colonel of Second Infantry; Brevet Colonel John R. Edie, lieutenant-colonel of Eighth Infantry; Brevet Major-General Emory Upton, lieutenant-colonel of Eighteenth Infantry; Lieutenant-Colonel Thomas C. English, Second Infantry; Brevet Brigadier-General T. J. Haines, commissary department; Major E. McHudson, United States Army, and Brevet Colonel T. P. Swaine, major Second Infantry. Major Henry Goodfellow is judge-advocate of the court.

ASSIGNMENTS OF STAFF OFFICERS.

UNDER instructions from the President of the United States, the following assignments are made officers of the general staff:

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT.

Lieutenant-Colonel and Brevet Brigadier-General J. C. Kelton to be relieved from duty in the Adjutant-General's office, and to be ordered to report to the general commanding the Division of the Pacific, on the completion of the special orders under which he is now acting.

Lieutenant-Colonel and Brevet Brigadier-General Robert Williams to be relieved from duty in the Adjutant-General's office on April 1st, and then to report for duty to the general commanding the Department of Virginia.

Major and Brevet Major-General William D. Whipple to be relieved on the arrival of Brevet Brigadier-General Kelton at the headquarters of the Division of the Pacific, and to report in person for duty in the Adjutant-General's office at Washington.

Major and Brevet Brigadier-General Samuel Breck to be relieved from duty in the Adjutant-General's office, and report on or before July 1st to the general commanding the Department of the Missouri for duty.

Major and Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel George K. Leet to report in person without delay to the general commanding the Department of the Cumberland for duty.

Major and Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel James P. Martin to be relieved on the arrival of Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Leet at the headquarters of the Department of the Cumberland, and report in person for duty in the Adjutant-General's office at Washington.

BUREAU OF MILITARY JUSTICE.

Major Thomas F. Barr, judge-advocate, to be relieved from duty in the Bureau April 1st, and then to report in person to the general commanding the Department of the East.

Major H. P. Curtis, judge-advocate, to be relieved from duty in the Bureau April 1st, and then report in person to the general commanding the Department of the Platte.

Major D. G. Swain, judge-advocate, to report in person, April 1st, to the general commanding the Department of the Missouri.

QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT.

Colonel and Brevet Major-General Robert Allen, assistant quartermaster-general, to be relieved from duty in the Division of the Pacific, and to report in person for duty in the Quartermaster-General's office.

Lieutenant-Colonel and Brevet Brigadier-General M. S. Miller, deputy quartermaster-general, to be relieved from duty in the Fifth Military District, and report in person to the general commanding the Department of the Lakes, for duty at Detroit.

Lieutenant-Colonel and Brevet Brigadier-General J. C. Morran, deputy quartermaster-general, to be relieved from du-

ty in Washington by April 1st, and to report for duty to the general commanding the Division of the South.

Lieutenant-Colonel and Brevet Major-General R. O. Tyler, deputy quartermaster-general, to be relieved from duty in the Division of the Missouri by April 1st, and then report in person for duty to the general commanding the Division of the Pacific, to relieve Brevet Major-General Allen.

Lieutenant-Colonel and Brevet Brigadier-General J. A. Ekin, deputy quartermaster-general, to be relieved from duty in the Quartermaster-General's office April 1st, and then to report in person to the general commanding the Fifth Military District for duty in Texas.

Major and Brevet Brigadier-General Tredwell Moore, quartermaster, to report in person to the general commanding the Department of the East for assignment to a post.

Major and Brevet Brigadier-General J. D. Bingham, quartermaster, to be relieved from duty in the Department of the Lakes by April 1st, and then to report in person to the Quartermaster-General for duty.

Major and Brevet Brigadier-General A. J. Perry, quartermaster, to be relieved from duty in the Quartermaster-General's office April 1st, and then to report in person to the general commanding the Department of the Platte for duty.

Major and Brevet Brigadier-General J. J. Dana, quartermaster, to be relieved from duty in the Quartermaster-General's office, on or before July 1st, and then to report to the general commanding the Department of the Lakes for assignment.

Major and Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel M. I. Ludington, quartermaster, to be relieved from duty in the Department of the Missouri, temporarily, by Captain G. W. Bradley, April 1st, and then to report in person to the Quartermaster-General for duty.

Captain and Brevet Brigadier-General William Myers, assistant quartermaster, to be relieved from duty in the Department of the Lakes by April 1st, and then to report in person to the Quartermaster-General for duty.

Captain Daniel G. Thomas, military storekeeper, to be relieved from duty in Washington on or before July 1st, and then to report to the general commanding the Department of Dakota for assignment.

SUBSISTENCE DEPARTMENT.

Colonel and Brevet Brigadier-General C. L. Kilburn, assistant commissary-general of subsistence, to be transferred from New York to Philadelphia, the headquarters of the Military Division of the Atlantic; to be relieved as chief commissary of the Department of the East by Major and Brevet Brigadier-General W. W. Burns, commissary of subsistence, who will accordingly report to the department commander without delay.

Major and Brevet Colonel Beekman Du Barry, commissary of subsistence, to be relieved from duty in the Commissary-General's office on the arrival of Brevet Major McClure, and then to report in person to the general commanding the Department of the Missouri for assignment.

Major and Brevet Brigadier-General George Bell, commissary of subsistence, to break up the subsistence depot in Washington on or before July 1st, and then to report in person to the general commanding the Department of Virginia for assignment.

Captain and Brevet Major William H. Nash, commissary of subsistence, to break up the subsistence depot at Cincinnati, Ohio, on or before April 30th, and then to report in person to the general commanding the Department of the Missouri, to relieve Captain and Brevet Major Charles McClure, commissary of subsistence, in New Mexico. Brevet-major McClure then to report in person for duty to the Commissary-General of Subsistence in Washington.

Brevet Brigadier-General E. G. Beckwith, major Second Artillery, will be relieved from duty in the office of the Commissary-General on or before July 1st, and proceed to join his regiment.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

Lieutenant-Colonel and Brevet Colonel Charles Sutherland, assistant medical purveyor, to be relieved from duty in Washington on or before July 1st, and then to proceed to New Orleans and take charge of the medical purveying depot there.

Surgeon B. Norris, brevet colonel, to be relieved from duty as attending surgeon in Washington, April 1st, and report to the general commanding the Department of Dakota for assignment.

Surgeon C. C. Gray, brevet lieutenant-colonel, to be relieved from duty in the Department of Dakota, and report April 1st, to relieve Surgeon Norris as attending surgeon in Washington.

Assistant Surgeon J. S. Billings, brevet lieutenant-colonel, to be relieved from duty in the Surgeon-General's office on or before July 1st, and then report in person to the general commanding the Department of the Platte for assignment.

PAY DEPARTMENT.

Major and Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel J. B. M. Potter to be relieved from duty in the city of Washington, and report in person to the general commanding the Department of the Missouri for duty in New Mexico.

Major Justus Steinberger to be relieved from duty in the Department of the East, April 1st, and then report in person to the general commanding the Department of Dakota for duty.

Major Wm. B. Rochester to be relieved from duty in New Mexico on or before June 15th, and then repair without delay to Washington to relieve Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Potter.

Major J. L. Hodge to be relieved from duty in Washington on or before July 1st, and then to report for duty to the general commanding the Department of Louisiana.

Major V. C. Hanna to be relieved from duty in the Department of Dakota as soon after the arrival of Major Steinberger as practicable, and then to report in person to the general commanding the Department of the Lakes for duty.

Major Brantz Mayer to be relieved from duty in the Department of the East May 1st, and then to report in person to the general commanding the Department of the Columbia for duty. The office of the paymaster in Baltimore to be thereafter discontinued.

Major E. H. Brooke to be relieved from duty in the Paymaster-General's office on or before July 1st, and then report in person to the general commanding the Department of the Missouri for duty.

Major J. R. Mears to be relieved from duty in the Department of the Columbia as soon as practicable after the arrival of Major Mayer, and then report in person to the general commanding the Department of the Cumberland for duty.

CORPS OF ENGINEERS.

Brigadier and Brevet Major-General A. A. Humphreys, chief of engineers, is assigned as a member of the Light-house Board, in place of Brigadier and Brevet Major-General Delahed, retired, to take effect February 20th.

Colonel and Brevet Major-General J. G. Barnard, in addi-

tion to his present duties, is assigned to duty as a member of the Light-house Board, in place of Brevet Brigadier-General Bache, retired, to take effect February 20th.

Colonel J. N. Macomb, upon being relieved by Brevet Brigadier-General Reynolds, to take station at Rock Island City, Ill., assuming charge of the duties now in the hands of Brevet Major-General Warren, and unfinished at the time of his relief.

Lieutenant-Colonel and Brevet Brigadier-General I. C. Woodruff to proceed to Philadelphia, Pa., and relieve Brevet Brigadier-General Bache, retired, of his duties and responsibilities in connection with the Fourth Light-house District, by February 20th, and to become the engineer of that district.

Lieutenant-Colonel and Brevet Colonel J. D. Kurts, upon being relieved of the charge of the construction of defences of Baltimore, Md., and Washington, D. C., by Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Craighill, to proceed to Philadelphia, Pa., and relieve Lieutenant-Colonel Stewart, in charge of the construction of defences of Philadelphia, and of the harbor and river improvements on Delaware river and bay.

Lieutenant-Colonel and Brevet Brigadier-General William F. Reynolds, upon being relieved from charge of the survey of the northern and northwestern lakes by Brevet Major-General Warren, and of his present duties under the Light-house Board by Brevet Brigadier-General Poe, to take station at St. Louis, Mo., and relieve Colonel Macomb of all his present duties.

Lieutenant-Colonel C. S. Stewart, upon being relieved by Brevet Colonel Kurts, to proceed to San Francisco, Cal., and take the duties now held by Major Elliot.

Major and Brevet Major-General G. K. Warren, when he shall have completed certain maps and reports he is now preparing, and not later than April 1st, to turn over his remaining duties temporarily to his senior assistant, Brevet Major Benyaurd, then to proceed to Detroit, Mich., and relieve Brevet Brigadier-General Reynolds, in charge of the survey of the northern and northwestern lakes.

Major and Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Wm. P. Craighill to proceed to Old Point Comfort and relieve Brevet Brigadier-General Brewerton (retired) of the construction of Forts Monroe and Wool, by February 20th. In addition, Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Craighill will, as soon as relieved from his duties in the office of the Chief of Engineers, not later than April 1st, relieve Brevet Colonel Kurts of the charge of the construction of defences of Washington and Baltimore, and fix his office in Baltimore, Md.

Major and Brevet Colonel J. B. Wheeler to turn over at once to Brevet Colonel Merrill his duties and responsibilities in connection with the harbor improvements of Chicago and Michigan City; to turn over his remaining duties to Captain Cuyler, who will receive them temporarily; and then to proceed to Washington, D. C., and report for duty in the office of the Chief of Engineers.

Major and Brevet Brigadier-General O. M. Poe, on being relieved by Major Elliot, in his duties as engineer secretary of the Light-house Board, to proceed to Detroit, Mich., and take charge of the engineer service of the Eleventh Light-house District, and to relieve the officers in charge thereof of the works of river and harbor improvements on Lake Huron and the St. Mary's river.

Major and Brevet Colonel D. C. Honston, on May 1st, to turn over his present duties to Captain Holgate, who will receive them temporarily; and then to proceed to Milwaukee and assume charge of the river and harbor works with which Brevet Colonel Wheeler is at present charged on Lakes Michigan and Superior, excepting the harbors of Chicago and Michigan City.

Major George H. Elliot at once to turn over his present duties to Brevet Colonel Mendell, who will receive them temporarily; and then to proceed immediately to Washington, D. C., and report for duty as engineer secretary of the Light-house Board.

Major and Brevet Colonel William E. Merrill, in addition to his present duties, at once to relieve Brevet Colonel Wheeler, in charge of the improvement of the harbors of Chicago and Michigan City. Brevet Colonel Merrill's station to continue at Chicago, Ill.

Captain and Brevet Major William J. Twining to proceed at once to Charleston, S. C., for duty under the Light-house Board as engineer of the Sixth Light-house District.

Captain and Brevet Major William R. King, when he has completed certain special duty upon which he is now engaged, not later than June 1st, to proceed to Willett's Point, New York harbor, and report to Brevet Brigadier-General Abbot for duty at that post with the battalion of engineers.

Captain and Brevet Major A. H. Burnham, on the arrival of Brevet Major King at Willett's Point, New York harbor, to proceed to Washington, D. C., and report for duty in the office of the Chief of Engineers.

Captain D. P. Heap to proceed to St. Paul, Minn., and report to the general commanding the Department of Dakota for duty.

First Lieutenant A. M. Miller to proceed, not later than April 1st, to Milwaukee, Wis., and report for duty to the officer in charge of harbor improvements on Lakes Michigan and Superior.

First Lieutenant A. N. Lee to proceed to Detroit, Mich., and report for duty to the officer in charge of the survey of the northern and northwestern lakes.

Colonel and Brevet Major-General T. J. Cram (retired) to turn over, before February 20th, to Major McFarland, who will receive them temporarily, the duties and responsibilities connected with all the works of improvement of rivers and harbors now in General Cram's charge.

E. D. TOWNSEND, Adjutant-General.

CHANGES OF STATIONS.

THE following is a list of the changes of stations of troops reported at the War Department since last report:

Companies C, L, and M, Tenth Cavalry, from Fort Gill, Ind. T., to Fort Arbuckle, Ind. T. December 12th. Joined at Fort Arbuckle.

Company B, Second Infantry, from Corinth, Miss., to Huntsville, Ala., January 29th.

Company D, Second Infantry, from Corinth, Miss., to Sumnerville, Ga., January 29th.

Company I, Second Infantry, from Huntsville, Ala., to Sumnerville, Ga., January 29th.

Company A, Eighth Infantry, from Fort Macon, N. C., to Department of the South, January 29th. Ordered to Department of the South. Station not yet known.

Company B, Eighth Infantry, from Chapel Hill, N. C., to Department of the South, January 29th. Ordered to Department of the South. Station not yet known.

Company D, Eighth Infantry, from Fort Johnson, N. C., to Department of the South, January 29th. Ordered to Department of the South. Station not yet known.

Company I, Eighth Infantry, from Fort Macon, N. C., to Department of the South, January 29th. Ordered to Department of the South. Station not yet known.

Company K, Eighth Infantry, from Raleigh, N. C., to Department of the South, January 29th. Ordered to Department of the South. Station not yet known.

No changes in infantry or artillery.

THE NAVY.

The Editor would be pleased to receive for this Department of the Journal all facts of interest to the Navy, especially such as relate to the movements of officers or vessels.

VARIOUS NAVAL MATTERS.

THE *Guerriere*, first rate, screw, 23, is fitting out at the Brooklyn Navy-yard, for the South Pacific Ocean. Will be ready the latter part of March.

THE sloop *Saratoga*, third rate, 11, is at the Brooklyn Navy-yard, being rigged and prepared for sea, to be ready about the 10th of next month. Destination not yet stated.

REAR Admiral Turner telegraphs the Navy Department that he visited the Sandwich Islands in the steamer *Mohican*, and that the Americans were received with great distinction.

THE *Canandaigua*, screw, 7, *Hartford*, screw, 21, *Wachusett*, screw, 9, and the *Tennessee*, are all at the Brooklyn Navy-yard, fitting out for sea, and will be ready in about six months.

THE *Colorado*, first rate, screw, 44, is now ready for sea, and will receive her officers at Brooklyn Navy-yard on the 15th inst. This vessel is the flag-ship of the East India squadron, Rear Admiral John Rogers.

A BILL is now before the Senate Committee on Naval Affairs providing that from the 13th of September, 1855, to the 14th of January, 1858, Commodore S. B. Bissell shall be allowed the present pay of a commander in the United States Navy.

A JOINT resolution to place the name of Benjamin S. Richards, ensign United States Navy, upon the Navy Register as master on the active list, from the 26th of March, 1869, with the pay of such rank to the date of his commission, has been introduced in the Senate and referred to the Naval Committee.

THE *Yantic*, fourth rate, screw, 7, Commander John Irwin, is now fitting out at Brooklyn Navy-yard, and will proceed to the West Indies, for the purpose of running a line of soundings for laying a submarine cable from Aspinwall to some point in Cuba.

CAPTAIN J. H. Higbee, U. S. Marine Corps, has been detached from the Philadelphia, Pa., Navy-yard, and ordered to proceed to Mare Island Navy-yard, Cal., via Pacific Railroad, and report to Rear Admiral Turner for duty as senior marine officer, Pacific Fleet.

A JOINT resolution submitted to the Senate by Mr. Nye, and referred to the Military Committee, authorizes the President to permit William L. Hanscom, late naval constructor of the Navy of the United States, to withdraw his resignation of that office, accepted by the Navy Department January 5, 1866, and to reinstate him in the office.

THE *Jamestown*, Commander W. T. Truxtun, arrived at San Francisco January 23d, from a cruise among the Feejee and other islands. Commander Truxtun was engaged some time in investigating the claims and complaints of citizens of the United States against the natives of the Feejee islands, full reports of which have been received at the Navy Department.

THE *Saginaw* is at Mare Island, California, and will sail shortly on a cruise. Lieutenant-Commander M. Sicard, commanding; Ensign L. C. Logan, executive officer; Ensign H. Perkins, navigator; Ensign, W. S. Cowles; Mate, G. H. Robinson; Assistant Surgeon, Adam Frank; Assistant Paymaster, G. H. Read; First Assistant Engineer, James Butterworth; Second Assistant Engineers, J. J. Ryan, H. Main, C. D. Fox.

CAPTAIN Commerell, Lieutenant Arundell, Midshipman Childers, of H. M. ship *Monarch*; Surgeon Nelson, of the *Plymouth*; Captain Shufeldt, Lieutenant-Commander Wise, Paymaster Woodhull, Assistant Engineer Webster, Ensign Ingersoll, of the *Miantonomoh*; Commander Ransom, Surgeon Scofield, Assistant Engineer Ross, Ensigns Tremain, Derby, of the *Terror*, were at Augusta, Maine, last week, the guests of Governor Chamberlain and the citizens.

ALL work in the departments of steam engineering and construction is suspended at the Portsmouth (N. H.) Navy-yard. The U. S. ship *Benicia* arrived there February 7th from Portland; while coming up the river, she went ashore on Pierce's Island in the narrows, but floated off without any damage. After coaling, she will proceed on her voyage. The *Plymouth* arrived at the yard from Portland February 8th. Lieutenant-Commander M. L. Johnson has reported for duty in the ordnance department of the yard.

THE *Jamestown* arrived at Mare Island week before last, from a cruise among the islands of the Western Pacific. Commander Wm. T. Truxtun, commanding; Lieutenant-Commander C. L. Huntington, executive officer; Master Asa Walker, navigator; Master, William Welch; Ensigns, J. W. Miller, J. M. Miller, A. Dunlap, and P. T. Cunningham; Surgeon, Wm. Johnson; Paymaster, G. R. Watkins; First Lieutenant Marines, H. C. Cochran; Boatswain, A. Milne; Gunner, E. A. McDonald; Carpenter, S. N. Whitehouse; Sailmaker, G. D. Macy.

THE *Mohican* arrived at Mare Island from Honolulu on the 12th January, and was soon to sail on a cruise down the coast. Commander S. R. Franklin, commanding; Lieutenant W. H. Brownson, executive officer; Master S. W. Very, navigator; Ensigns, H. Knox, H. B. Mansfield, J. M. Wainwright, R. Rush; Surgeon, F. E. Potter; Assistant Surgeon, J. E. Gillespie; Paymaster, J. B. Redfield; First Lieutenant Marines, G. M. Welles; Chief Engineer, Philip Juch; Second Assistant Engineer, C. H. Greenleaf; Boatswain, I. T. Choate; Gunner, J. R. Granger; Carpenter, D. Dwyer; Sailmaker, R. L. Tatten.

In answer to the resolution passed by the House of Representatives on the 17th ult., requesting to be informed "under what act of Congress, or by other authority, appropriations for the Navy are diverted to the

survey of the Isthmus of Darien," the President has transmitted a report by the Secretary of the Navy, to whom the resolution was referred, that "No appropriations for the Navy have been diverted to the survey of the Isthmus of Darien. The act of Congress approved July 28, 1866 (Statutes at Large, volume 14, page 311), appropriated forty thousand dollars for the purpose of surveying the Isthmus of Darien, with a view to the construction of a ship canal."

THE U. S. steamer *Sutata* left New York on Saturday for the West Indies. The following is her list of officers: Lieutenant-Commander Weld N. Allen, commanding; Lieutenant-Commander W. H. Whiting, executive officer; Lieutenant Edwin Longnecker, navigating officer; Thomas N. Penrose, passed assistant surgeon; Henry T. Skelding, passed assistant paymaster; James L. Vaulain, first assistant engineer; Henry N. Manney, master; Jerome B. House, ensign; E. A. Prime, ensign; Lewis F. Strout, A. P. Bashford, H. H. Johnston, Jos. B. Crozett, mates; William H. Burkett, captain's clerk.

In compliance with a resolution of the Senate, the Secretary of the Navy has submitted a list of the lands "claimed, held, or occupied by the Navy Department in the States of Louisiana and Florida." The list of lands in Louisiana includes 19,533.61 acres of live oak timber lands reserved for naval purposes; 2,535 on the Mississippi river, below New Orleans, acquired by purchase; and a lot in New Orleans, with a front of 1,000 feet, which is occupied conjointly with the War and Treasury Departments. The lands in Florida consist of lands reserved for timber purposes, Santa Rosa island, 12,800 acres; land at Key West, occupied as a naval depot, and the Pensacola Navy-yard.

WE extract the following from a circular which has been issued by the British Admiralty: "Officers and men of the Royal Marines may wear their moustaches only, when embarked, should they prefer so to do. Considering the hardships that might be involved in compelling such officers and men of the Royal Marines as elect to wear both beards and moustaches when embarked, to shave their beards on being discharged to headquarters on shore, their lordships are pleased to direct that the permission to wear beards on board ship granted by Circular No. 36, shall be extended to all officers and men of the Royal Marines on shore."

A BILL is before the Committee on Naval Affairs of the House of Representatives which provides that the Secretary of State be directed to sell so much of the registered bonds of the United States now under his control, belonging to the "Japanese indemnity funds," as shall realize two hundred thousand dollars; which sum he shall pay without delay to the Secretary of the Navy, who shall deposit the same in the Treasury of the United States, and cause the whole amount thereof to be distributed among the officers and crew of the United States ship *Wyoming*, who participated in the action at Simonseki, in July, 1863, under the same laws and regulations that now govern the distribution of prize-money.

SECRETARY Robeson received last week a despatch from Captain Elias K. Owen, commander of the United States screw steamer *Seminole*. The despatch was dated Key West, and announced the arrival there of the *Seminole* from Port-au-Prince, Hayti. There were twenty-seven cases of yellow fever on board, and several deaths had occurred. Captain Owen reported all quiet at Port-au-Prince, and in fact throughout the Haytian Republic, at the time he left. The principal officers of the *Seminole* are: Commander Owen, Lieutenant E. S. Keyser, Chief Engineer J. H. Long, and Paymaster Jared Lindale, Jr. Subsequent despatches reported that the yellow fever was abating, and the cases now are of a very mild character. The *Seminole* has been ordered to Portsmouth, N. H., where she will arrive in the course of a few days.

WE have received the following memoranda from Norfolk, Va.: January 20th—Boatswain Robert Anderson, attached to this yard, was detached to-day, and ordered to the U. S. steamer *Colorado*. January 24th—John Odend'hal, mate on temporary duty, reported to-day, and was assigned to the *Ordinary*. January 27th—John McManus, mate on temporary duty, reported to-day, and was assigned to the *Ordinary*. January 31st—First Assistant Engineer O. H. Lackey, detached from the *Sutata*, reported for duty at this yard to-day in place of First Assistant Engineer J. L. Vaulain, who has been ordered to the *Sutata*. February 1st—Captain Napoleon Collins, U. S. Navy, reported for duty to-day as executive officer, relieving Captain Edward Donaldson, who has been placed on waiting orders. Owing to a recent order from the Navy Department, the following discharges were made on the 31st of January: In the Bureau of Steam Engineering, 114 men; and in the Bureau of Construction and Repair, 440 men.

THE U. S. steamer *Saranac* went into commission at Mare Island, California, as the flag-ship of Admiral Turner, on the 27th inst. She will sail shortly for the west coast of South America. The following is a list of the officers: Rear-Admiral T. Turner, commanding Pacific Fleet; Commander P. C. Johnson, chief of staff and commands the ship; Lieutenant-Commander S. Dana Greene, executive officer; Lieutenant-Commander Frederick Rodgers, navigator; Fleet Lieutenant-Commander C. W. Kennedy; Masters, Joseph Marthon, W. J. Moore, J. G. Talbot, G. W. Coster; Ensign, E. W. Sturdy; Fleet Surgeon, Philip Lansdale; Fleet Paymaster, R. C. Spalding; Fleet Engineer, W. S. Stamm; Assistant Surgeon, W. M. Nickerson; First Assistant Engineer, W. H. West; Second Assistant Engineers, R. L. Webb, F. J. Symmes, J. Q. A. Ford; Brevet Captain Marines, L. E. Fagan; Boatswain, James Nash; Gunner, Stephen Young; Sailmaker, George C. Boerum; Carpenter, D. W. Perry.

MR. MORRILL on the 7th introduced in the House of Representatives a bill to aid in the construction of sea-going vessels, steamboats, and ships, which provides that any person or company, who, by an agent or other-

wise, may hereafter construct any vessel, steamboat, or ship, for ocean commerce, within the jurisdiction of the United States, shall be entitled to receive from the Treasury of the United States a sum of money equal to eighty-five per cent. of the amount received as a revenue by the Government on the materials which enter into the vessel; but if articles manufactured in the United States instead of foreign manufacture are used, ninety per cent. according to the comparative value between such articles of home and foreign manufacture, upon which foreign manufacture duties are laid: *Provided*, That such vessels shall be constructed with as much adaptation to the naval service as is practicable: *And provided, also*, That the Government shall have the right to appropriate such vessels to its own use, in time of war, at a cash value, after a just appraisal made under the direction of the President of the United States.

CAPTAIN T. H. Stevens, U. S. N., has written a letter to vindicate his reputation against the implications of the letter of the Hon. Gideon Welles to the present Secretary of the Navy. He refers to the report of the Senate and House Naval Committees on his case, and adds: "These reports, based upon an investigation of my record, will refute better than any words of mine the implications contained in the letter referred to. Subsequently, the present distinguished Executive nominated me, with others, for advancement to our rightful positions, which nominations were immediately and favorably acted upon by the Senate, and thus some of the great wrongs perpetrated by the late Secretary of the Navy were rectified and redressed. Since his retirement a new era has dawned upon the service, and a widely different policy has been inaugurated. Vigor has succeeded to servility—intelligence to ignorance. The system of espionage is at an end, and the time has gone by when officers are arraigned and tried upon anonymous charges in defiance of justice and of law. The tongue of the slanderer is silent, and the gossipier, finding no encouragement within the walls of the Navy Department, has sought, and doubtless found, a new field of labor with the sage of Hartford in the baneful influences which surround his presence."

THE Secretary of the Navy has sent the following letter to Captain John E. Commerell, C. B., commanding H. B. M. ship *Monarch*:

NAVY DEPARTMENT, February 2, 1870.

SIR: I beg leave to congratulate you on your arrival in our waters, and on the handsome manner in which you have conducted your share of the obsequies of the late Mr. Peabody. I regret that your rapid voyage, and your arrival five days before the Department expected you, prevented the presence of a larger number of our vessels to join with you in the ceremonies at Portland. As your vessel may necessarily require certain repairs, I beg leave to invite you to such of our ports as you may desire, and where you can have access to one of our Navy-yards. New York or Boston can perhaps offer you the greatest facilities, and I shall be very happy to direct that you be supplied with anything necessary to prosecute your voyage homeward or wherever your destination may be. It would gratify our Senators and Representatives and the members of the Cabinet to visit your noble ship, and if you could afford the time I shall be very glad to have your ship visit Annapolis, which is only two hours' journey by rail from Washington.

In the event of your coming, I hope to have the pleasure of seeing you at the capital.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEORGE M. ROBESON,
Secretary of the Navy.

THE Navy Department has several despatches from Rear Admiral Rowan, commanding the Asiatic fleet, the latest dated December 13, 1869. He arrived at Hong-Kong from the coast of Japan on November 17. He reports the distribution of his fleet as follows: *Onida*, Commander E. P. Williams, at Hiogo; *Monocacy*, Commander E. P. McCrea, at Nagasaki; *Ashuelot*, Commander B. B. Taylor, at Yokohama; and the *Idaho*, Lieutenant C. M. Anthony, at Yokohama. The *Iroquois*, Commander R. L. Law, sailed from Hong-Kong, November 29, for Norfolk, Va., and has on board part of the crew of the *Unadilla*, lately sold, some sick and prisoners, and as many officers returning home as the steamer could accommodate. The *Mauvee* was sold at Hong-Kong on the 15th of December. Just before leaving Japan, Rear Admiral Rowan visited Osaka, in the *Delaware*. On arriving off the mouth of the river, the fort was saluted with twenty-one guns, which was promptly returned. A salute was also given and returned, in honor of the Vice-Governor, who was sent by the Governor to call on the Admiral. The next day (some time in November) he proceeded with his staff to Osaka; was saluted in passing the fort; received at the landing by a guard of honor; escorted to the residence of the United States Vice-Consul; was called upon by the Governor and other high officials, and invited to a Japanese dinner. Two Government barges were provided for his accommodation. In company with the Governor he visited the castle of the Tycoon, once a magnificent stronghold, but now in ruins from the effects of fire. Dinner was served in the Government Treasury building, the Governor and two Vice-Governors being present. The Governor having expressed a wish to visit Hiogo, passage was extended to him in the *Delaware*, and he was landed with the customary honors.

Rear Admiral Rowan forwards with his despatches an interesting report from Commander Taylor, of the *Ashuelot*, from which the following is extracted: On the 4th of November the Japanese authorities saluted Mr. De Long, the new United States Minister Resident, with fifteen guns from the fort at Kanagawa, and the American flag was displayed. The salute was returned by the *Ashuelot* with the Japanese flag at the fore. On the 10th, by previous arrangement, the Minister, ex-Minister, and their suites, were received on board the *Ashuelot* and conveyed to Yeddo. The customary salutes were exchanged at Yeddo between the *Ashuelot* and the fort and a Japanese man-of-war. On the 11th the new Minister had an

audience with the Mikado, and General Van Valkenburg presented his letter of recall. On the 13th the *Ashuelot* returned to Yokohama. On the 20th of November the colors of the *Ashuelot* were half-masted, and fifteen minute guns fired at noon, in respect to the memory of the late Secretary of War, General Rawlins. The English and French vessels of war (the only foreign flags in port) united in the ceremony so far as to wear their colors half-mast from sunrise to sunset, the French vessels of war "cock-billing" their yards in addition. The legation flags on shore were also half-masted. By invitation of the Japanese authorities the *Ashuelot* united with the foreign men-of-war in port in dressing ship and firing a salute of twenty-one guns, with the Japanese flag at the main, on the occasion of the passage of the Empress of Japan through Kanagawa on her way to Yeddo.

In answer to a resolution of the House of Representatives, the Secretary of the Navy has submitted a statement of the number of men employed in the several Navy-yards on the 1st of March, the 1st of July, the 1st of September, and the 1st of December, 1869; and also a statement exhibiting the expenditures of the Navy Department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1869, as follows:

MEN EMPLOYED IN NAVY-YARDS.

NAVY-YARD.	March 1.	July 1.	Sept. 1.	Dec. 1.
Portsmouth, N. H.	356	630	1,688	1,220
Boston.	754	1,621	2,446	2,364
New York.	1,026	2,166	3,026	3,406
Philadelphia.	618	2,070	1,758	1,396
Washington.	615	930	1,028	1,298
Norfolk.	430	1,183	1,014	862
Pensacola.	213	139	119	104
Mare Island.	776	1,113	1,365	1,452
	4,788	9,852	12,444	12,092

EXPENDITURES OF THE NAVY DEPARTMENT.

MONTH.	Amount drawn from the treasury.	Amount refunded to the treasury.	Expenditure.
July, 1868.	\$2,675,586 72	\$340,443 48	\$2,335,143 24
August, 1868.	2,259,601 28	1,268,280 70	1,001,320 58
Sept., 1868.	3,068,095 07	799,869 96	2,268,225 08
October, 1868.	4,025,732 10	703,914 16	3,321,817 95
Nov., 1868.	1,972,193 88	311,344 40	1,660,849 48
Dec., 1868.	1,490,021 45	269,465 16	1,220,556 30
January, 1869.	2,612,589 98	1,300,869 96	1,311,720 02
Feb., 1869.	3,192,199 47	2,397,686 07	764,513 40
March, 1869.	2,727,345 19	1,093,112 91	1,634,232 28
April, 1869.	1,693,736 47	213,235 36	1,480,501 11
May, 1869.	1,463,635 19	452,351 54	1,011,283 65
June, 1869.	2,825,306 24	805,441 46	2,019,864 78
Totals.	29,946,733 04	9,945,975 07	20,000,757 97
Appropriated for fiscal year ending June 30, 1869.			17,366,550 18
Excess.			2,644,407 79

REORGANIZATION OF THE NAVY.

The following letter from the Secretary of the Navy relative to the reorganization of the Navy, was addressed to the chairman of the House Naval Committee:

NAVY DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, Jan. 25, 1870.

Hon. G. W. Scofield, Chairman of the Naval Committee House of Representatives.

SIR: I have this day, in compliance with their resolution, transmitted to the House of Representatives a copy of the record of proceedings and papers of the board of officers heretofore convened by order of this department to take into consideration the subject of assimilated rank between the officers of the various corps of the Navy.

At the same time, in accordance with the expressed wishes of some of its members, I send to your committee such brief suggestions in regard to the subject-matter embodied in the report of said board as seem to me to be for the good of the service.

These suggestions I have, for the purpose of giving them definite form, communicated in the shape of the bill herewith enclosed. But it must be understood that these are merely such suggestions as, after diligent inquiry and much reflection, seem to me to unite, as far as may be, consideration for individuals with the true interests of the service; and they are to be regarded as suggestions only, and in no sense as an endeavor to enforce the views of the department in any other manner.

It will be perceived that the provisions of the enclosed bill for the benefit of the various auxiliary corps of the Navy, while they are considerably more liberal than those of the bill which passed the Senate at the last session, do not include so great a number of officers in the higher grades as was agreed to by the board of officers, nor even so many as are suggested in the letter of the Vice-Admiral, which was among the papers before the board, and which is transmitted to Congress with their report.

This is a question of much personal interest, and calculated to excite considerable feeling, and I have hesitated long before differing in this point from so many experienced officers; but I felt that their views had been somewhat influenced by deference to the claims of individuals and a desire to compromise a much vexed and difficult question, while I am not authorized to yield for such reasons what seems to me in this respect to be for the public good.

In the line of the Navy high rank is a necessary incident of command, and is essential to organization and discipline; but in the auxiliary corps it is a matter of personal feeling, dignity, and comfort; and these, though considerations of importance, should, in common with all others which are personal, yield to the best interests of the service and of the country.

Looking from this standpoint, I have, as already remarked, been constrained, while recommending a larger number of pay, medical, and engineer officers of the higher grades than was provided by the Senate bill above named, at the same time to reduce the number reported by the board, believing that number to be larger than a fair adjustment of public and personal claims requires or will allow.

The board have recommended in the medical and

pay corps, respectively, besides one officer with the rank of commodore in the Navy—corresponding with that of brigadier-general in the Army—that there be allowed fifteen officers ranking with captain the Navy, corresponding with that of colonel the Army, and ten officers of like rank in the engineer corps; making forty officers with the rank of captain. Add to these two constructors, four chaplains, and four professors, ranking with captains, and we have on the active list of the various auxiliary corps, which number together but five hundred and sixty officers of all grades, fifty captains; while in the line corps, of ten hundred and ninety-four officers, including midshipmen, there is but the same number of officers of that rank.

This is, certainly, out of all just proportion, on any consideration of capacity or service, individual claims, or public interest.

The bill which I propose gives the auxiliary corps twenty-eight captains in all, certainly a full proportion.

The board also recommend eighteen officers, ranking with commanders, in each of the medical, pay, and engineer corps, and fifteen in the other auxiliary corps; making sixty-nine in all. Add this number to those of higher grade recommended by the board, viz., fifty captains and three commodores, and we have one hundred and twenty-two officers in the auxiliary corps of five hundred and sixty, ranking with or above lieutenant-colonels of the Army, none of whom are to do duty at sea, except in cases of special emergency.

In the Army of the United States, with from thirty thousand to fifty thousand men, and nearly three thousand officers, there are, in the medical corps, one brigadier-general, one colonel, and five lieutenant-colonels; and in the pay corps one brigadier-general, two colonels, and two lieutenant-colonels; making, in both of these corps, twelve officers ranking with or above the grade of lieutenant-colonel, against sixty-six of like rank in the same corps of the Navy, with its eight thousand to twelve thousand men and twelve hundred officers.

Surely, neither deference to the personal dignity and pride of the members of these corps, nor regard for the true interests of the service and the country, requires that they should be placed so far in advance of their brethren in the military service.

It is true that the organizations of the Navy are much smaller and more numerous and isolated than those of the Army, and thus require a larger proportion of officers of sufficient rank for the purposes of separate and responsible command. But this necessity does not apply to officers of the auxiliary corps who exercise no command, and is particularly inapplicable to those grades which are not intended for sea duty.

The bill which I propose gives the auxiliary corps forty-five commanders, ranking with lieutenant-colonels, which, with the thirty-one officers of higher grades, also recommended, gives them seventy-six officers ranking with or above lieutenant-colonel in the Army.

I have retained in the bill eight chief engineers, constructors of machinery, in view of the number required at the various navy-yards and stations.

I have also followed the recommendation of the board in regard to officers on the retired list, as this seemed to manifest a proper respect for seniority, and confer a suitable reward for long-continued service, without doing injury to any.

The board made no recommendation in regard to the rank of assistant and passed assistant surgeons, paymasters, and engineers; and I recommend that this remain as it is now fixed by law, viz., with and next after lieutenants, and with and next after masters.

This gives those officers, on their first entry into the service, possibly at the age of twenty-one, rank with and next after officers of the line who have been regularly educated and have been in the service, on an average, rather more than six years, including their time at the Academy, and who cannot in the future hope for promotion nearly so rapid as that which followed the reorganization of the Navy at the close of the war.

I have substantially followed the recommendations of the board in regard to the precedence of the executive officer, because it seems to me clearly right and necessary to discipline and efficiency. The law, as it now stands, gives the "executive officer, of whatever grade, while on duty, precedence of all officers of the medical, pay, and engineer corps." The recommendation of the board, and the bill proposed, provide that this officer shall, as far as practicable, be next in line rank to the commanding officer, and confine his precedence to the officers "attached to the organization of which he is the representative head, while they are in the discharge of the duty connected with such organization."

The government of a naval establishment, afloat or ashore, is the will of the commander acting under the laws governing the naval service, the regulations which are founded on them, and his instructions from the department, and supplying, with his own judgment and command, those points wherein the laws, regulations, and instructions fail by reason of their generality. He is the law-giving and directing element of the government, looking to the general objects of the duty he has to perform, and planning, deliberating, and ordaining what steps shall be taken for their accomplishment. Occupied with these general duties, it is only at very rare intervals that he himself undertakes their execution in detail. This is intrusted to the executive officer, who is just what his title imports, viz., the head of the executing department and centre of the organization of the naval establishment. He carries out and executes the ordinances of the commander, and is clothed with the necessary command and authority for that purpose, as the representative of the commander, certainly, but representing him as the executive does the government.

In the close organization of a ship's company, where every individual is in constant contact with every other, it is essential that every grade of the organization should be distinctly marked, and its duties and authority distinctly and constantly understood. To have one grade charged with the duty and authority of commanding

all, and yet required constantly to abandon the position and insignia of command, and to assume a secondary and subordinate position in the eyes of the ship's company, is to hold the reins of authority loosely, and it has been found in every service destructive to discipline with both officers and men. I think this bill restricts the precedence of the executive officer, as the representative of the military organization, as closely as the good of the service will permit.

In regard to the board of naval survey, which, properly constituted, may harmonize with the present organization of the department and assist the Secretary, as the head of the department, in procuring valuable information, and in the introduction of many desirable reforms and improvements in the construction, armament, equipment, management, and discipline of naval vessels, and in the management of every department of our navy-yards, stations, and establishments, I have, in some degree, departed from the provisions of the Senate bill, by making the members of that board eligible, by the Secretary of the Navy, from a wider range of officers; thus placing the matter where, in my judgment, it properly belongs, under the direct supervision and control of the head of the department, as I do not think it advisable that the responsible head of the department should be hampered by a board not responsible to him, and which might, at times, be at variance with his views in principle as well as in detail.

The Senate bill, in its last section, provided for the temporary continuance of an office which, in my judgment, and in the opinion of my two immediate predecessors, is of constant and permanent convenience and necessity. The fifteenth section, therefore, is made to continue and establish the office of solicitor and naval judge-advocate-general, and I have requested that officer to appear before the committee, if they so please, and more fully make known my views in regard to it.

The bill also recommends a reduction of the officers of the marine corps, as well as a change in the proportions, and a reduction of the number of line officers of the Navy. Thus, it will be observed, I have recommended a large reduction in the number of lieutenant-commanders and an increase of lieutenants; a diminution of the number of ensigns, and an enlargement of the number of masters; endeavoring at once to promote a wise economy, and to bear constantly in mind the actual necessity of the service and the best method of insuring its efficiency.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

GEO. M. ROBESON, Secretary of the Navy.

NAVY GAZETTE.

REGULAR NAVAL SERVICE.

ORDERED.

FEBRUARY 4.—Lieutenant-Commander Yates Stirling, to duty in the Hydrographic Office, Washington.

Master William A. Morgan, to the receiving ship *New Hampshire*.

FEBRUARY 6.—Rear-Admiral John Rodgers, to command the Asiatic Fleet flag-ship *Colorado*, now at New York.

FEBRUARY 8.—Paymaster Milton B. Cushing, to temporary duty in the Bureau of Provisions and Clothing.

DETACHED.

FEBRUARY 3.—Lieutenant-Commander George W. Wood, from the receiving ship *Vermont*, and placed on waiting orders.

FEBRUARY 4.—Commander Joseph Fyffe, from the command of the *Saugus*, and placed on waiting orders.

Lieutenant-Commander Sullivan D. Ames, from the Navy-yard, Boston, on the 18th of March next, and ordered to duty at the Naval Academy.

Lieutenant-Commander A. G. Kellogg, from the Hydrographic Office on the 28th inst., and ordered to duty at the Naval Academy.

Lieutenant Charles H. Rockwell, from the receiving ship *Vandalia*, and ordered to command the *Palos* on the 20th inst.

Ensign Warner M. Cowgill, from the Navy-yard, Philadelphia, and ordered to duty in the Pacific Fleet.

Surgeon A. L. Gibson, and Assistant Surgeon Jerome H. Kidder, from the *Idaho*, and ordered home.

Passed Assistant Surgeon J. Rufus Tryon, from duty in the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, and ordered to the *Idaho*.

FEBRUARY 7.—Lieutenant Henry C. Nields, from the Naval Station, League Island, Pennsylvania, and ordered to duty at the Navy-yard, Philadelphia.

Ensign Daniel Delehanty, from the *Delaware*, and Ensign James D. Adams, from the Navy-yard, Mare Island, California, and ordered to the *St. Marys*.

Passed Assistant Paymaster Francis T. Gillott, from the *Dacotah*, and ordered to settle his accounts.

First Assistant Engineer A. V. Fraser, from the Navy yard, New York, and ordered to the *Yantic*.

Passed Assistant Paymaster H. Trumbull Stanchiff, from duty in the Bureau of Provisions and Clothing, and ordered to the *St. Marys* by the 1st of March.

APPOINTED.

FEBRUARY 4.—Surgeon E. C. Dean, an assistant to Chief of Bureau of Medicine and Surgery.

ORDERS REVOKED.

FEBRUARY 7.—The orders of First Assistant Engineer Clark Fisher, to the *Yantic*, and he is placed on waiting orders.

LEAVE EXTENDED.

FEBRUARY 8.—Surgeon Robert Woodworth, for three months.

DISMISSED.

FEBRUARY 9.—Paymaster Thomas C. Masten.

RESIGNED.

FEBRUARY 9.—Paymaster C. W. Hasler.

LIST OF DEATHS

In the Navy of the United States, which have been reported to the Chief of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery for the week ending February 5, 1870:

George Jones, chaplain, January 22d, Naval Asylum.

Charles M. Cuba, second-class boy, October 22, 1869, U. S. steamer *Janetown*.

Henry A. Knowles, marine, January 30th, Naval Hospital, Philadelphia.

Michael Lannon, supernumerary (late seaman), January 31st, Naval Hospital, Chelsea, Mass.

CHANGES IN THE MARINE CORPS.

The following are the changes in the officers of the Marine Corps since last memoranda, viz.:

Captain Philip R. Fendall.—On January 23, 1870, ordered to be detached from the Boston, Mass., station, and to proceed to Annapolis, Md., and report to the commandant of the Naval Academy, as the officer detailed to command the marines at that station.

Second Lieutenant D. Pratt Mannix.—On January 23, 1870, ordered to be detached from the steamer *Fretic*, and to proceed to Pen-

cola, Fla., and report to the commanding marine officer for duty at that station.

Captain McLane Tilton.—On January 28, 1870, ordered to be detached from the Annapolis, Md., station, and to proceed to Brooklyn, N. Y., and report by February 15, 1870, to the commandant of the Navy-yard as the officer detailed to command the marine guard of the steamer Colorado, and as fleet marine officer of the Asiatic Squadron.

Second Lieutenant Wm. J. McDonald, Jr.—On January 28, 1870, ordered to be detached from the Brooklyn, N. Y., station, and to report by February 15, 1870, to the commandant of the Navy-yard for duty on board the steamer Colorado.

Captain Wm. B. McKean.—On January 28, 1870, ordered to be detached from the Philadelphia, Pa., station, and to proceed to Brooklyn, N. Y., and report to the commanding marine officer for duty.

UNITED STATES SHIP WYOMING.

MR. ARCHER, from the Committee on Naval Affairs of the House of Representatives, has made the following report:

That in the month of July, 1863, the American steamer *Pembroke* was fired upon in the Straits of Simonoski, in the Japan Sea, by two vessels of war, a brig of ten guns and a bark of eight guns, belonging to the Japanese Prince of Nagato. Commander McDougal, then in command of the *Wyoming*, in the China and Japan seas, being informed of the attack, ordered the vessel to sea and proceeded to the locality of the outrage. On the morning of the 16th of July, he approached the Straits of Simonoski, and upon entering the straits he discovered a steamer, bark, and brig of war, and as he approached them and passed between the brig and bark, was fired upon by the vessels and six batteries on shore. Commander McDougal returned the fire at short range, and placing his vessel in proper position maintained the fight for about an hour. The boilers of the hostile steamer were exploded by the shell of the *Wyoming*, and the other vessels were believed to be badly disabled, and the brig to be sinking, and Commander McDougal reported that he had accomplished great destruction on shore. Having thus maintained the fight, Commander McDougal withdrew from the action, the fire being continued by the batteries as long as he was in range. The *Wyoming* lost four men killed and seven wounded, and received considerable damage in her smoke-stack, and the rigging aloft was hulled eleven times, and sustained other injuries, as papers will show. The straits were three-quarters of a mile wide, with a strong current, and the want of charts greatly increased the difficulties of the position in the presence of a much superior force. The action was maintained by Commander McDougal, his officers and men, with skill and bravery. In the *Japan Commercial News* of the 24th of July, 1863, it is thus described: "The captain, all his officers and crew, behaved with the utmost coolness and bravery. The *Wyoming* was run into the midst of the enemy's vessels, receiving and returning broadsides at pistol range, at the same time sustaining a hot and continuous fire from the shore batteries." The committee believe that Commander McDougal, his officers and men, punished the outrage committed upon an American vessel skillfully and gallantly, and that their conduct entitles them to the gratitude of their country.

The memorialist asks that there shall be allowed to him, his officers and men, the value of the three vessels, as prize money. Can that be allowed? The hostilities against our steamers and ships of war were not the acts of belligerents, and therefore the claim cannot rest upon the laws regulating belligerent prize or bounty. We were at peace with Japan, and did not regard the hostilities of the Prince of Nagato as those of a belligerent. The firing into the *Pembroke* and the attack upon the *Wyoming* were piratical acts, and have been so treated both by the United States and Japan. Prize is allowed in piratical cases only when the craft is captured and condemned, in which case the proceeds of the capture are equally divided between the Government and the captors. In this case there was no capture, although the benefits which accrued to our Government were infinitely greater than if an actual capture had been made, and it does not come within the letter of the law. Can the claim then rest upon the equity that the "officers and crew, constrained by a discreet and patriotic sense of duty," fought "three piratical or hostile Japanese vessels," and sunk and destroyed two, and that the United States subsequently justified their conduct by concluding a convention with Japan, whereby she received a full indemnity? The conduct was gallant; it aided to suppress formidable hostilities to our commerce, and contributed to securing the convention of October, 1864, whereby an indemnity was received far beyond the injuries done to the *Pembroke* and *Wyoming*. The sum of \$650,000 has been paid to our Government by Japan as indemnity, and is now in registered bonds, subject to appropriation by Congress. The committee think it proper that prize money be allowed out of the money received under the convention.

CHARLES H. GRAVES,

(Formerly Aide-de-Camp to Major-General Terry),
Real Estate Agent at DULUTH, (Lake Superior), Minnesota. The new city, terminus of the Lake Superior and Mississippi, and North-western Pacific Railroad.

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U. S. ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL.

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1870.

The Editor does not hold himself responsible for individual expressions of opinion in communications addressed to the JOURNAL.

The postage on the JOURNAL is twenty-five cents a year, payable quarterly, in advance, at the office where received.

Subscribers who purpose binding their volumes at the end of the year should be careful to preserve their files of the paper, as we no longer stereotype the paper, and are not able, therefore, to supply all of the back numbers of this volume.

The subscription price of THE ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL is SIX DOLLARS a year, or THREE DOLLARS for six months, invariably in advance. Remittances may be made in a Post-Office money order United States funds, or Quartermasters', Paymasters', or other drafts, which should be made payable to the order of the Proprietors, W. C. & F. P. CHURCH. Where none of these can be procured, send the money, but always in a registered letter. The registration fee has been reduced to fifteen cents, and the present registration system has been found by the postal authorities to be virtually an absolute protection against losses by mail. All postmasters are obliged to register letters whenever requested to do so.

THE ARMY LEGISLATION.

"It is not so much," says a lady to the hero of one of THACKERAY'S novels, "what you say as what you may say next that makes me tremble." And of Congress we may declare that it is not so much what it does as what it may do next that keeps the Army officers anxious. It is their inability to comprehend on what principles respecting them Congress is acting, that confuses Army officers and renders them uncertain as to what Congress is going to do. The inconsistency and ignorance, the forward and backward and sidewise lurches habitual in Congressional legislation on Army subjects for the last ten years, are so mystifying that the career of arms in this country, instead of being a profession, is fast becoming a mere lottery.

The President, the General-in-chief, and the Secretary of War have all in turn, and all in common with other Army officers, expressed the opinion, privately and publicly, that Congress will not be required to legislate this winter to reduce the Army. "I beg that Congress may be appealed to," reported General SHERMAN to the War Office, "not to diminish the military establishment any further," adding reasons pungent and potent drawn from the size of the Republic, its unsettled character in regions thousands of miles long and wide, the nomadic traits of the Indians, and our state of quasi war with them.

If to-day a fair schedule were made up of the Government duties requiring immediate attention, not only in the Army, but in exploration, in surveying, in internal improvements, in missions, in fortification, and a score of similar things, for which Army officers are better fitted than any other class—their salaries smaller, their knowledge and courage greater, their promptness and efficiency surer, their integrity more unquestionable—we believe that occupation could be found for every officer at a vast saving to the Government. But the first impulse, and the wrong one, is to turn out; and possibly with some the reason is that when new duties do demand new officers, there may be a patronage connected with them in procuring appointments. The Army already has that organization, which we are clamoring for in the civil service, and the responsibility of each officer is so direct that Government duties are discharged by it (as in the case of "reconstruction," the Freedmen's Bureau, the missions to Mexico and the West Indies, etc.) with great skill, economy, and efficiency. No duties of a semi-military character are so well performed as by officers of the Army and Navy. And yet, with a country so vast as ours, so constantly growing, so full of life and enterprise, and demanding such constant exertions, we pretend that there is nothing for many officers to do. Of the 505 officers unattached on the 1st of November, after the consolidation, two-thirds, viz., 334, have been busily engaged on recruiting, reconstruction, Indian, engineer, ordnance, signal, aide-de-camp, War Department, or Freedmen's Bureau duty, or on duty as professors in civil colleges or the Military Academy, or at headquarters of divisions, departments, and districts, or in the quartermaster's and subsistence departments, or commanding posts. And as to the way in which such duties are habitually done, General SHERMAN has said:

Many of the officers have been required to perform, at great personal risk, the duties of Indian agents, governors, sheriffs, judges, and inspectors of election, etc., duties foreign to their military training, and they have done this duty without a murmur and with marked intelligence. The great mass of them are banished to distant sections, and kept there with indifferent shelter, without any of the associations and facilities of civilized life; and many of them have families that they scarcely have the means to educate and provide for. In my whole Army experience I have never known the Army officers so poor, and yet I believe they will continue cheerfully to endure this state of facts if they can see in the future any hope of improvement.

Just and generous legislators surely need not be pried with such arguments, and must see that no great loss is made by a temporary detachment of officers from their command to other duties. For, as we have said and explained more than once, it is a mere chance, an anomaly, which has thrown out for a brief time these officers, in a forced consolidation. Had the slower crystallization which Congress contemplated last year taken place, there would have been no talk of new legislation for reduction now. It was that unlucky element of "no new enlistments," accidentally and unwittingly thrown into the compound, that produced the result we now see. It is nettling, therefore, to say the least, to find the most intelligent of popular critics saying, "Five years have passed since our civil war ended, and yet we have five to six hundred Army officers drawing pay from the Treasury while doing nothing whatever to earn it." All this multiplies an evil (if it be an evil) to very many times its real size, because there are only 171 officers "doing nothing whatever to earn their pay," and this number will, with the revision of the retired list and the discharge of the disqualified, be reduced to fifty-four, while in any event the surplus has existed less than a year. What is more, it is probable that these few surplus officers will be absorbed by habitual causes before legislation can take effect upon them.

Congress has had four entirely different views about the size of the Army in 1864, 1866, 1868, and 1870; and we have no doubt that a fifth view will prevail in 1872. We most assuredly look for the time when, after some hundreds of experienced and skillful officers have been thrust out of their profession, the Army will again, on some real or fancied emergency, be enough increased in size to have employed them all.

It seems, then, that a poor retired officer is not only to be set aside on a dwarfed pittance, but must not be suffered to serve his country in the ways formerly open to him. The act for this generous purpose, passed last winter by the House, but which then fell short in the Senate, has now been carried through by the latter body, and approved by the President. Thereupon comes the General Order recalling veterans from their spheres of usefulness and honor, where, with credit to themselves and benefit to the country, they have been doing that "light work" of their profession which justly falls to their lot. Retired officers who have been detailed as professors of colleges must now withdraw their pretensions, unless they can patch up an arrangement by which colleges can pay them the wages which the country is too poor to pay. Retired officers are to "proceed to such homes as they may elect." They are graciously permitted to "enter upon any private business," if they should take a fancy to try to begin life anew, after having worn out their energies in the service of the country, and match their wounded and wasted limbs and gray hairs against the spirit and fire of forty years ago. They may "change their place of residence or travel at their own pleasure," as far as their royal retired pay will allow them to go in sumptuous equipage—perhaps down to the Florida swamps to recall pestilence and fever suffered so long ago; or to the well-remembered blood-stained heights of Chapultepec and Molino del Rey; or to what were once "the Plains," where arrow-wounds were badges of service won in places then deserts, now roaring cities; or later to where their remains of youth were spent on the battle-fields where the Army saved the Union to a grateful people.

But we shall not dwell longer on a condition of things which seems to be inevitable. Generals

SHERMAN and BELKNAP speak admirably, in their order, and almost with a certain respectful sympathy, of this change in the lot of retired officers. They "express their regret that, in the natural course of things, the long continuance of most faithful devotion to duty, on the part of the officers concerned, must at last terminate." They remind them that this "respite comes in involuntary form and without a possibility of implied reproach." They add that the "best wishes of the Government for their future comfort and happiness follow these veterans, and those who have preceded them in retirement from all service to the homes of their choice."

Withdraw, ye veterans, who have borne the heat and burden of the day! The places of comfort and comparative ease which you had hoped for at the evening of life are no longer for you.

WE are glad to see that Congress has taken up the subject of the sale of West Point and Annapolis appointments to which we lately called its attention. The Military Committee of the House has summoned witnesses, and it is proposed to make a thorough investigation. When the guilty Congressmen are discovered, we propose that they be turned over to General SHERMAN and Admiral PORTER to be tried by drum-head Court-martial. A season of reflection at the Dry Tortugas would be of service to them and to the State. The New York Sun, whose editor was Assistant Secretary of War under Mr. STANTON, reports that Mr. BOUTWELL, now Secretary of the Treasury, when in Congress, received a letter offering him one thousand dollars for a cadetship at West Point. He referred the letter to Mr. STANTON, and when the appointments for the year were made the name of the writer was discovered in the list. He had been appointed by a Congressman from the West, who denied all knowledge of the bribe. The cadet was dismissed from the Academy minus his thousand dollars, and the matter ended there.

THE Army Register for 1870, just issued, contains the names of 3,099 officers in all, as compared with 3,123 in the Register of 1869. Of the officers in the Register of this year, 17 colonels, 18 lieutenant-colonels, 20 majors, 177 captains, 216 first lieutenants, 56 second lieutenants, and one chaplain are on the list of officers unassigned to regiments, who number 505 in all. Of these, 171 are not assigned to duty of any kind, being on the "Awaiting Orders" list. The new Register, in its list of casualties, has the names of 68 officers resigned, 33 deceased, six wholly retired, five cashiered, and 14 dismissed, as compared with 28 resigned, 21 deceased, one wholly retired, five dismissed, and five cashiered last year. Four major-generals, one brigadier-general, six colonels, two lieutenant-colonels, three majors, and seven captains—twenty-three officers in all—have been added to the retired list during the last year. As the result of these changes, one cavalry officer, SAMUEL D. STURGIS, has been promoted to colonel; one, CHARLES J. WHITING, to lieutenant-colonel; four to major; eleven to captain. One artillery officer, HENRY J. HUNT, has been promoted to colonel; one, AUG. A. GIBSON, to lieutenant-colonel; one, ROBERT V. W. HOWARD, to major; and three to captain. Of the infantry officers three have been advanced to colonel, three to lieutenant-colonel, four to major, seven to captain.

THE Army bill, although made the special order for Wednesday last in the House of Representatives, is still crowded out by election cases and appropriation bills. The Military Committee have begun the investigation of the sale of cadetships, which will hit some one hard. The House Naval Committee have decided in favor of the reduction of the number of lieutenant-commanders, and the increase of the lieutenants, as recommended by the Department. They have agreed to report against the proposed board of officers. After protracted discussion, they have decided to make the rank of the staff positive, instead of assimilated or relative rank, as recommended by the Secretary of the Navy. They propose ten surgeons with the rank of captain, and fifteen with the rank of commander. Although the Committee did not reach

the engineers and paymasters, it is safe to say that they will give a similar grade of rank to those officers. They have not yet fixed upon the lower grades.

It is not our custom, or according to our taste, to obtrude our business affairs upon the editorial columns of the JOURNAL; but the writer of the accompanying communication says for us very forcibly some things which we have forborne to say for ourselves. We are glad to have the officers of the Army and Navy read the JOURNAL whether they pay for it or not, but we would respectfully submit whether we are not justly entitled to ask that those who read it should pay for it. There need be no difficulty in securing its receipt. Officers who are stationed where they find trouble in procuring the bank bills or drafts can always order the paper, with the understanding that it shall be paid for as soon as they come within the happy region of greenbacks. If officers, convinced of the justice of what our correspondent says, desire to send in their names as subscribers, they need not delay such action on account of present or prospective changes of station. The addresses of their papers will be cheerfully and promptly changed as often as they may ask it, and every week if necessary.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: The popularity of the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL is probably more marked here than in squadrons nearer home. The eagerness with which it is borrowed by officers on this station, and the feverish impatience of those who "speak" for it late, would show it to be a vital necessity among us. I never saw an officer who did not read the paper; I know some who read it before they do their letters; but the small number of subscribers is shocking. On board most vessels of the squadron but two or three out of an average of fifteen officers take the JOURNAL. Such conduct is exceedingly thin, to say the least. What would be thought of a man living in New York sending day after day to his neighbor to borrow the Herald or World?

I am well aware that it is from no motive of economy, and not one of the officers who read the paper but would willingly pay for it; it is through carelessness principally, and ignorance of the way to procure a draft for so small an amount on a foreign station. We never fully realized its value until last mail, when the shining light on board our ship who does subscribe failed to receive his files; his oil had expired like that of the foolish *macosmie*, and I regret to state even he has not renewed it. We had a big growl in the mess over the misfortune, succeeded by a moralizing, wherein we concluded that we were villains of the deepest dye, and that but for our going home so soon we would subscribe at once.

As I am confident all naval officers read the JOURNAL, all should be willing to pay for it. An arrangement might be made to supply the paper to all officers, to be paid for by a general draft and checked off by the paymasters. Changes of station or residence could at all times be ascertained at the department, or the proper number of copies could be sent to each vessel or shore station, and then only those on leave would have to be looked out for individually. This plan would obviate the difficulty of getting small drafts, etc. The JOURNAL might then be made the official organ for the dissemination of general orders and circulars. Even married officers with large families could scarcely object to the expenditure if the subscription were charged in proportion as a "club," which would reduce it immensely.

The JOURNAL remarked some time ago that the subscription in the western camps was rather weak, but has generally been so modest on this point that an effort is due by its many readers. I am a non-subscriber myself, but that only goes to prove the rule.

O'HANNASAN.

ASIA, January 1st.

IN the Senate of the United States, January 26th, Mr. Wilson asked, and by unanimous consent obtained, leave to bring in the following bill, which was read twice, referred to the Committee on Military Affairs, and ordered to be printed:

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the President of the United States be, and he hereby is, authorized to establish a military prison for the proper restraint and correction of soldiers under sentence by military courts, in such locality as he shall deem best adapted for that purpose, and to make all necessary rules and regulations for the government of the same.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That the proceeds of the labor of the convicts, and so much of their pay as may be stopped by the sentence of court-martial during the period of confinement, shall be appropriated toward the maintenance of the said prison, and all acts and parts of acts inconsistent with this provision are hereby repealed.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That on application of the Secretary of the Navy, the Secretary of War may direct naval convicts to be received at said prison for execution of their sentence, conformably to the rules and regulations established for military convicts.

SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted,* That to encourage convicts to industry and good behavior the commandant of the prison may apply any surplus, over and above his own personal support, which any convict shall earn, to the support of his family, if he have one, or to his per-

sonal benefit; and he may pay such surplus over, at stated times, to his family, or retain and pay it to the convict whenever he shall be discharged: *Provided further,* That each convict, when discharged from the prison, shall receive ten dollars to provide for his immediate wants.

SEC. 5. *And be it further enacted,* That the President be, and he hereby is, authorized to appoint a chaplain for such military prison, who shall have the pay and emoluments of a post chaplain of the Army.

CAPTAIN E. F. WENCKEBACK, U. S. Army, acting signal officer Department of Dakota, under date of Saint Paul, Minn., February 1st, addresses to Brevet Brigadier-General A. J. Myer, chief signal officer U. S. Army, the following report in regard to certain wooden torches he had prepared and tried:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of a communication from your office, dated January 24, 1870, relating to the use of wooden torches which I had made at Fort Ranall, D. T. In reply, I would respectfully state that I had said torches made of pine wood, about four feet long, and at the lower end perhaps four inches in diameter, which end I had split very fine at the length of perhaps twenty inches; I then filled that end with small pieces of rags soaked in a composition of tar, grease, rosin, and pitch, which was thoroughly boiled, tied small pieces of rope at different places around the fine pieces, to keep them as much together as possible when burning, and then drenched that part of the torch in the aforementioned composition. After this I let it dry. When properly made, it will last one hour or more, and can be perfectly seen at a distance of five miles or more. I could not exactly state the number of miles, because I had no opportunity to try them more than three miles. I only used them at the distance of two miles. As they are far less expensive than turpentine or kerosene oil, I would respectfully recommend their adoption for the usual practice at the different posts, and have no doubt that, when carefully prepared, they will answer every purpose, particularly as they can be made more perfect than those I have used. I respectfully enclose a sketch of the torch.

MR. WELKER introduced February 7th in the House of Representatives, a bill to discontinue the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands, and for other purposes, which repeals all laws and parts of laws prescribing duties for the officers of the bureau, so far as the said duties have not yet been fully executed, and transfers all funds now in the treasury of the United States, placed to the account of the Commissioner of the Bureau for the education and support of refugees and freedmen, to the account of a Commissioner of the Bureau of Education, a bureau which the bill provides shall be established at Washington in the Department of the Interior. The Commissioner is authorized to exercise the same powers as those hitherto exercised by the Freedmen's Bureau in the work of education. The collection and payment of bounties, arrears of pay, prize money, and other moneys due to colored soldiers, sailors, and marines, and their heirs, the bill provides, shall be conducted under the direction of the Secretary of War, as heretofore authorized by law to be made by the Commissioner of the Freedmen's Bureau; and all hospitals and asylums, now under the charge of the Commissioner of the said Bureau, and all funds belonging thereto, to be under the supervision of the Secretary of War, who is authorized to designate some officer of the Army to discharge these duties. The Commissioner of the Freedmen's Bureau is allowed three months after the passage of the act to fulfil all legal obligations and contracts and to settle his accounts at the treasury of the United States.

THE Congressional Committee on Claims, to whom was referred a bill for the relief of Colonel Samuel W. Price, of the Twenty-first Kentucky Volunteers, who has been unable to obtain back pay due to him, on account of some irregularity in his muster, have made a favorable report upon it, which concludes as follows: "In view of these facts, the committee are unanimous in reporting favorably as to this claim. In all the testimony brought to their knowledge, the claimant appears in the light of a brave soldier and capable officer, who endured the perils of battle, re-enlisting to the end of the war, and barely escaping with his life. It is therefore recommended that he be paid the full amount of the pay of colonel of infantry up to the close of his service as though he had been mustered according to law, and for this purpose report the accompanying bill and recommend its passage."

A JOINT resolution introduced in the Senate and referred, authorizes the Secretary of War to cause to be issued without charge forty-five blankets to those enlisted men of Company B, Tenth U. S. Infantry, whose blankets were destroyed or rendered worthless in the extinguishment of a fire at Fort Snelling, Minnesota, on the 20th of December, 1868.

FIRST Lieutenant Richard Vance, Nineteenth Infantry, has been ordered to return to Baton Rouge, La., and report to the commanding officer.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Our correspondents are informed that communications intended for our columns, to receive prompt attention, should invariably be addressed to THE EDITOR OF THE ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL, Box 3,201, New York.

A CITIZEN'S VIEW.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: Although a civilian, and an unpretending citizen at that, yet observing so much clamor and legislation and hue and cry about the reduction of our Army, I have thought proper to give you a few common-sense reasons why our Army should not be reduced.

In my opinion (and this is the opinion of nine-tenths of the common-sense people of the whole Union), the Army is too small. It should be augmented to thirty thousand men at least, and kept there, full-officered and with full complement of men, rank and file. You never hear the people complain of taxes for the support of a respectable army. Our country is somewhat larger and more extended than it was when 10,000 or 15,000 men were supposed to be sufficient for our military establishment. Moreover, it will not grow smaller, but continually larger. But it appears the edict has gone forth to reduce and destroy in a measure the Army, merely to show a great desire for retrenchment. I wonder if these members of Congress have lost any sons in the late war? All the slain buried throughout the land, and all the one-legged and one-armed men living as monuments of the great war, and all our tears for our lost ones, came of this eternal cry of reduction of the Army. Reduce our Army and throw out of service some five or six hundred brave and meritorious officers, who have risked their lives in defence of their country, many of whom have grown gray in the service, and who know nothing else but the profession of arms, who, when our country was in danger, stood in her defence! Turn out such men! What are our Congressmen thinking of? It is unjust and cruel! There is room enough in other places to crop down and economize. How would it seem to these advocates for reduction of the Army if the people were to say to them: You must make our laws and legislate for us for less money; and unless you do, we propose to muster you out?

Hundreds of officers who have done noble and gallant service are to be mustered out until the country again shall want their services; and then, after a few million more men are killed, we again will say to them: "You are old now, we can again dispense with your services." Can it be possible that our country will take this course with these gallant men?

The writer of this is thankful that the Congressional delegation from his State (Michigan) has not asked for this ingratitude. The people do not ask for it; there is too much patriotism among the masses to call for it. Let Congress rather increase our Army sufficiently to assign every officer to duty.

I naturally feel a pride in our Army and appreciate their services. My ancestry have done something for our country, commencing with the Revolution, following up to the war of 1812, to which we gave the country a Commodore Perry, a Brevort, and a Macomb, down to the Rebellion, to which I myself gave two sons, one of whom now lies in his grave. Had we had an Army, my son would now be living. Ask the mourning millions through the country if they want the Army reduced, and see what answers our Congressmen will receive. Shame! oh shame! Is it possible that our Republic is ungrateful?

DETROIT, February 1st.

THE BATTLE OF NASHVILLE.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: Highly valuable as is the historical record in the JOURNAL's issue, February 5th, under the heading "The Battle of Nashville," as giving a true and full statement of the facts connected with this battle, one which, in its results, was second to none in its influence on the final crushing out of the rebel military resistance, it is hardly less so in the lesson it teaches to all in high authority, if we are to accept the definition that "History is philosophy teaching by example," and that lesson is, the danger of taking counsel of our impatience or anxiety, rather than of our judgment formed on pre-existing facts, in any important crisis where the existing facts are not under our own eye.

It seems, at the first glance, somewhat strange that General Grant, who, on two memorable occasions in his military career, the first after the fall of Fort Donelson, and the second, it is said, before the capture of Vicksburg, had been nearly a victim to this conclusion of a clouded judgment, should have allowed himself to have acted in this instance at variance with that imperturbable temper, so characteristic of him when his mind is fully informed on the case before him. General Thomas was no new and untried man to him. He had had Chickamauga, Chattanooga, and the campaign from this last place to Atlanta, to say nothing of other facts, to gauge him by, and knew well how fairly he had won and richly merited the sobriquet of "Old Reliability." The explanation of Grant's action seems to lie rather in the almost impossibility of not sympathizing with the general mental condition arising from the moral atmosphere with which one happens to be surrounded at any given moment, than from anything else. The unreflecting outside world were importunately clamoring for results; and fault-finding and impatience were the order of the day among but too many who might claim that they belonged to the reflecting class. With such surroundings, is it anything to be wondered at that General Grant should have partaken of the prevailing moral hue? All this is but too well shown in the telegrams from December 8, 1864, when Thomas acknowledges Grant's orders to attack Hood forthwith, up to the one December 15, 1864, in which Thomas announces his first day's brilliant success, and arrests Grant, in his hurry of impatience to reach Nashville, at Washington itself.

The whole telegraphic correspondence is a curious study in itself, characteristic of the men engaged in it, and forcibly illustrating mental action and reaction. Secretary Stanton's despatch to Grant, December 7, 1864, followed up by those of Grant to Halleck and Thomas, December 8, 1864; Halleck, who had not forgotten his experience with respect to his impatience with Grant after Fort Donelson, in his two short and cautious telegrams to Grant, December 8, 1864, and December 9, 1864, throwing entirely upon Grant every particle of responsibility for relieving Thomas; the straightforward, unvarnished, dignified, and patriotic despatch of Thomas to Grant, December 9, 1864, with the subsequent telegrams of Grant and Halleck to him, to the closing one of General Grant, December 15, 1864, congratulating General Thomas on his victory, throw this view of the subject in the highest relief.

Speculation as to what might have been the result had General Thomas sacrificed his own judgment and plans to the impatience that was urging him forward to do so, is here useless. Hood, who was anything but a strategist, and, as his military career has shown, of hardly higher soldierly capacity than a dashing colonel of cavalry, had judgment enough to see that Thomas's army was his true objective, as, until a decisive blow was struck at that, the fighting rebel element in Tennessee and Kentucky, which had been taught prudence, and was only lying dormant, would make no decisive movement. Every day was adding numerical strength to Thomas and perfecting his organization and plans, while Hood, in every step he took toward him, was using up his own scanty stock of supplies and getting further from any that he could hope to replace them by, except by fighting for them, until Thomas was driven from Nashville. Whether such, or what reasons, further than those of the hour, weighed with General Thomas for the delay that called forth such urgent injunctions from his official superiors, the telegrams tell us nothing. But that so capable a soldier, and a man of so well-balanced a mind as General Schofield, should, as the JOURNAL's article states, have "fully sustained General Thomas in all he had done," and had expressed, before the battle, that he believed "the result would show the correctness of his judgment," is justification enough, were anything wanting in this overwhelming victory which crushed out the military rebel element in the Western States.

MODEL OF RESOLUTIONS TO DISBAND THE ARMY.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: In lieu of the various propositions "to reduce the Army and diminish the national expenses" which have recently been submitted to the Military Committees of both branches of Congress, I would respectfully recommend the passage of a "joint resolution" to disband the Army of the United States. The passage of this resolution would doubtless meet with the approval of a large percentage of the heavily tax-burthened citizens and qualified voters of the several Congressional districts. It would be hailed with especial delight by those conservatives who, out of pure consideration and undying love of the "old Constitution," were compelled to undergo the degrading privation of voluntary exile in Canada and elsewhere during the continuance of the late Rebellion; by those "cankers of a calm world and a long peace" who received from the "enrolling boards" of their several places of residence certificates of inability to serve their country by reason of their physical depravities; by those "who fattened upon the public miseries, by gambling on the vicissitudes of the national credit," by disappointed aspirants to military rank; and by those in general who ever manifested a crouching sympathy towards the enemies of the country, and a cowardly abhorrence of the country's defenders.

The following are some of the principal points of the proposed "joint resolution":

1. That as soon after the passage hereof as practicable, all arms of the service, including infantry, cavalry, artillery, and the engineer corps, shall be concentrated at or near Annapolis Junction, Md., at which place the rank and file of the Army will be immediately "discharged," whereupon the officers shall be required to repair to Washington, D. C., at which place, in consideration of past faithful services, they will be granted the privilege of resigning upon the condition that they receive no pay whatsoever until after they shall have satisfied the heads of departments of their non-indebtedness to the Government.
2. That the heads of departments aforesaid shall, by tacit understanding, report deficiencies in the accounts of all officers, whereupon a general order shall be issued to the effect "that any or all of said officers who may be found in the District of Columbia within the period of twenty-four hours from the promulgation thereof, shall be arrested by the Capitol police, confined in the 'Old Capitol prison,' and treated as public malefactors."
3. That immediately following the disbanding of the Army, all military bureaus shall cease to exist, and all officers of said bureaus shall receive an "honorable discharge" in consideration of their past indefatigable and faithful services.
4. That the "Indian Bureau" shall be abolished; and hereafter the care and protection of travellers en route to and from California, Alaska, and China, via the Union Pacific railway or otherwise, shall be confided to the several tribes of civilized native-American Indians, who are hereby and henceforth invested with the untrammelled and unrestrained control of all territory lying west of the Mississippi and east of the Gulf of Mexico.
5. That that time-honored institution, known as the "West Point Military Academy," shall be abolished, and the public buildings and lands composing the same shall be "turned over" to the State of New York, to be used for the new "Sing Sing prison," provided the same be considered an offset to all claims which the said State of New York may now have, or shall hereafter have, against the United States. (This will suit the "irrepressible Donn.")
6. That "all acts or parts of acts" creating a "retired

Army list" shall hereafter be "null and void;" and all retired Army officers shall be "outlawed and hunted down as good-for-nothing suckers on the national Treasury."

7. That all citizens or parts of citizens belonging to the several States, lately belonging to the Army of the United States, and who, from wounds received or diseases contracted in the line of duty, shall be found incapable of tilling the soil, or worthless for other useful occupations, shall be deemed a public nuisance, and timely requisition shall be made on the governors of States to have all such national eyesores transported to Washington, D. C., from whence they shall be conducted by a detachment of the Capitol police to a place designated within the District of Columbia, and hereafter to be known as "Potter's Field," where, after being stripped naked and adjudged by competent authority to be more fit associates for the dead than for the living, they shall be shot to death, and planted without either coffin or funeral rite.

8. That all those living monuments of past civil strife and national regrets, known as the "national cemeteries," being deemed by the wisdom of a far-seeing statesmanship to be in the way of that harmony and brotherly love which are to be alone the source of our future greatness, shall be effaced from every State of the Union, and the remains of every "Lincoln hireling of Black Republican oppression" shall be dug up from the "sacred soil" and transported to Richmond, Va., and there sold to the "bone manufactory" of "Davis, Greeley & Co.," provided that the proceeds of said sale shall be expended in reconstructing houses, fences, granaries, etc., destroyed during the "late unpleasantness."

9. That a board, to consist of ten survivors of the war of 1812 (a class of men who are universally known and respected by reason of a patriotism displayed at a period when all the States of the Union were as one), shall be convened in the city of Washington, D. C., whose duty it shall be to examine the public records, as far back as the close of Mr. Buchanan's administration, and to select from among them all such as, in accordance with their mingled wisdom and unbiased patriotism, shall be deemed objectionable or distasteful to any citizen of the United States, by reason of any allusion of a disreputable tenor regarding either his patriotism or his public fidelity. All documents of this description shall be at once destroyed.

10. That said board shall be required to work twelve hours out of every twenty-four, until every trace of the late war, of an unpleasant character, shall be razed from the national archives. That during the continuance of their labors, the members of said board shall be "quartered and rationed," in the public building, heretofore known as the "Soldiers' Home," at the expense of the Government, and that in addition they shall receive per diem the sum of two dollars and a half, the same to be divided among them as they themselves may deem proper.

11. That hereafter any citizen of the United States, presuming on having at any period of his life belonged, either as officer or soldier, to the armies thereof, who, after the passage of this resolution, shall be found conniving at obtaining any office of public trust or emolument, either for himself, his children, his own or his wife's relations, shall be deemed guilty of felony and punished accordingly.

PEREAT.

THE *Revue des Deux Mondes* has an article on the state of the Prussian forces at the present time. According to the writer (who, however, is believed to be not the person whose signature is attached to the article), the Prussian army consists of: First, the actual army, numbering on its peace footing 140,000 men, but capable of being increased in a few days to 220,000. Second, the first ban of the Landwehr—cavalry and infantry—composed in time of peace of about 3,000 men, the personnel only of the various regiments, but numbering on the first summons to arms upwards of 150,000 men. Third, the second ban of the Landwehr, numbering about 110,000 soldiers. This last class comprises all those who under the old system formed the Landsturm, which included all persons between the ages of seventeen and forty-nine capable of bearing arms who are not included in either of the preceding categories. It appears, moreover, from this article, that while the effective strength of the Prussian army has been rapidly increased, its expenditure has, by the introduction of the short-service system, been considerably diminished. In 1820 the average cost of each Prussian soldier was 211 thalers (£31 13s.); in 1859, 214 thalers (£32 2s.); and in 1869, only 196 thalers (£29 8s.). From these figures it is evident that Prussia is actually making a considerable profit out of the contingents furnished by the various States which make up the North German Confederation; for Article 63 of the Constitution allots to the Generalissimo of the Forces (the King of Prussia) a round sum of 225 thalers (£33 15s.), payable out of the revenues of each State, for every soldier furnished to the Federal forces, while the number of each contingent is fixed at one per cent. of the population in time of peace. The Federal army, on its peace footing for the ensuing year, will consist of 319,000 men.

In the House of Representatives, January 17th, Mr. Cox introduced a substitute for the present eight-hour law which provides: "That any officer or agent of the United States who shall evade or attempt to evade any of the provisions of this act, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and on sufficient proof thereof shall be removed from office and place by the President of the United States; and any person or persons contracting with any officer or agent of the United States who shall evade or attempt to evade any of the provisions of this act, shall be deemed guilty of a violation of the same, and on conviction thereof in any United States court shall forfeit such contract, and in addition thereto shall be fined not more than ten thousand dollars or less than one thousand dollars."

DEFENCE OF THE NAVY DEPARTMENT.

We extract from the speech of the Hon. B. F. Butler, in the House of Representatives, on the 26th of January, in reply to the Hon. Mr. Dawes, the following in defence of the present Navy Department's expenditures:

The objective point, to use a military phrase, of the chairman of the Committee on Appropriations seems to be the Navy Department; and there again he makes some statements which I cannot allow to go unchallenged. And these are so gross and show so little appreciation of his subject that I must conclude he has been imposed upon by some dishonest person, because I am sure if he had put his mind, clear as it is, to work upon this matter, or given it the slightest personal examination, he would have seen that his statement was not correct. His statement is:

"I say that the estimates of this Secretary in reference to these expenditures do not inspire me with entire confidence. I know he speaks of economy and the saving of money, but, sir, the great point upon which I find he has expended his energies is upon the promise he holds out to the House that he will save \$2,000,000 upon the article of coal alone, the whole estimate for which for the last two years was less than one hundred and fifty thousand dollars a year!"

Is this latter statement of fact correct? If it is, I will beg his pardon and sit down. If it is not, he ought on bended knees to ask the pardon of every one of the Republican party whose administration he has maligned by such a blind mistake, which it was easily within his reach to have made correct. When the chairman of the Committee on Appropriations, speaking on a matter of appropriations, speaks of the "last two years," I understand him to speak of the last two fiscal years, to wit, the one ending June 30, 1869, and the one ending June 30, 1870.

Now, on page 268 of the book of estimates for appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1869, will be found the estimate in these words:

"Estimate of coal for the use of the Navy, for the purchase, transportation, and expenses thereon, for seventy steam vessels, at five hundred tons per annum, \$900,000."

In the estimates for the year ending June 30, 1870, I find the estimate to be on page 263 in these words:

"For the purchase of coal for forty steamers, etc., \$480,000."

Making in those two years \$1,380,000 asked for coal for the Navy, instead of \$150,000 a year for the last two years, as my colleague has put the fact—only a mistake in the plain matter of fact that appeared in the book of estimates of over \$1,080,000 on the estimate of \$300,000. If either Mr. Secretary of the Navy or Mr. Postmaster-General has worse arithmetic than that, I leave the country to judge. But it is not a question of arithmetic, it is a matter of plain reading. It is recklessness of statement of which, from my knowledge of my colleague, I thought him incapable, and still deem him so if not imposed on.

If he says that in taking the estimates for the fiscal years ending in 1869-70 I am not right—

Mr. DAWES. When I speak of estimates, I do not speak of appropriations.

Mr. BUTLER of Massachusetts. He answers me that when he speaks of estimates he does not speak of appropriations. I ask him for bread and he gives me a stone. I will read from his speech:

"Mr. SCOTFIELD. Does the gentleman refer to the estimates of last year, or to the appropriations?"

"Mr. DAWES. I am speaking of the appropriations."

If he says that in taking the estimates for the fiscal years ending in 1869-70 I am not right, and that I ought to have taken one year still further back into Andrew Johnson's administration—of the economy and honesty of which he now appears to be the voluntary defender—I shall then find that there was no appropriation asked for whatever for coal; because there was a balance on hand January 1, 1867, under the unexpended appropriation applicable for fuel for the Navy, of \$6,811,963 68; so great a balance that in September following the Navy Department turned into the Treasury from that appropriation \$5,400,000. In addition to that they had coal on hand January 1, 1867, 35,000 tons; January 1, 1868, 36,386 tons; and June 30, 1868, 36,000 tons; while they had available for the purchase of coal on the 1st of January, 1868, \$2,314,278 31, including their appropriations. Surely here was margin enough out of which by proper economy to save \$2,000,000.

But the gentleman thinks it impossible that in the matter of coal a saving of \$2,000,000 might be effected. I can see very readily how that might be, and I give him the figures for the benefit of his arithmetic. Assume that we have fifty steam vessels in commission, large and small. Twenty tons a day while steaming would be a low estimate, or one thousand tons per day. Admit that they steam two hundred days alone out of a year, less than two-thirds of the time, that will be two hundred thousand tons of coal. Suppose that coal to cost, with transportation to foreign ports and labor, what Gideon Welles estimated it would cost in 1868, \$27 71 per ton, and the amount of the cost of coal for a Navy using steam less than two-thirds of the time would be \$5,542,000. Add to this the cost of wear and tear of machinery while steaming, say ten per cent. a year on the amount of the cost of the machinery, of which \$10,000,000 will be a low estimate, and you have a grand aggregate of \$6,542,000. Now, the Secretary of the Navy, by ordering that they shall steam but one-third of the time, or but one hundred days in the year, and use their sails the rest of the time, would save one-half of that amount. Is the proposition of the Secretary to save \$2,000,000 by using sails instead of steam so preposterous as the chairman of the Committee on Appropriations would suggest?

Referring to the 314th page of the Message and Documents of 1866-67, this report is found:

"The contracts for coal for the current year call for fifty-two thousand tons, twelve thousand tons at \$7 28

to be delivered at New York, and forty thousand tons at \$5 61 per ton at Philadelphia."

So that the coal for the Navy to be delivered at Philadelphia alone was \$311,760. Estimate what it would cost to distribute that at foreign stations. But by going to the book of estimates for 1869 I find that the coal for the seventy steam vessels, at five hundred tons each, making thirty-five thousand tons, is estimated to cost to the Navy Department, with all expenses of transportation, storage, and labor thereon, \$900,000, or \$27 71 per ton. So that if the cost of coal to the Navy of the fifty-two thousand tons for 1867 averaged at the cost price of what it was estimated for in 1868—if the fifty-two thousand tons bought and distributed in 1868 all over the world cost what Gideon Welles, my colleague's neighbor in Connecticut, estimated that his coal would cost him on an average per ton in 1868, then we shall have the fifty-two thousand tons cost \$1,440,920. The difficulty with my colleague's estimate is that he mistook entirely or overlooked the fact as to the amount estimated for in the last two years; and I am afraid that he took Gideon Welles's letter as guide for his statements, and not the book of estimates, for which I have given him my book and page.

Again, he did not take into consideration that we had established large coal depots in almost all parts of the world; that in 1867 the Bureau of Equipment and Repairs reported (see page 814, Message and Documents) that it was about to establish coal depots in the East Indies and the Mediterranean; and that at the end of the war, fearing a collision with Great Britain, we filled up our coal depots in every neutral port wherever we had them, so that we had no occasion when the war suddenly reduced our naval force to supply the few ships we had with a great amount of coal, any more than at the end of the war, when the estimates had been made in the subsistence department of the Army for feeding a million and a half of men, and the Army was suddenly reduced, it was necessary to make any estimates until the small Army of forty thousand men had eaten up the supplies which were furnished for fifteen hundred thousand, which would have taken them about thirty-seven years if all had been bought and none sold.

Now, if the Commissary-General of Subsistence had reported to the House that by reducing the ration of the Army he could save a large sum, say \$200,000, and that he did not require any appropriations for subsistence, would the chairman of the Committee on Appropriations turn around and say, "What achievement in mathematics is that by which you propose to save \$200,000 out of nothing? Won't you go to work, General, upon the national debt and see if you can't abolish it within four years?"

The fact is, the figures will show precisely as follows, as to the existing balances of unexpended appropriations for the Navy: in the year ending June, 1868, \$18,345,360; in the year ending June, 1869, \$16,007,154. To this balance sums were constantly added by the sale of old material. Add the balance on hand June, 1869, \$16,007,154, to appropriations for that year, \$15,956,666, and the sum of \$31,963,820 was actually appropriated last year, against \$28,441,761, making a deduction asked for this year by the Secretary of the Navy of \$3,522,059, if all is appropriated that General Grant calls for, thus taking \$16,000,000 more out of the \$49,000,000 that the chairman of the Committee charges us with.

Thus far we have dealt only with the appropriations and estimates, which may or may not show extravagance. But the expenditure, as in the case of the War Department, is the test of economy; and when reduced to that test the Navy Department comes out triumphant. I give you a table of the expenditures of Andrew Johnson's administration during the first nine months of the year 1868, as compared with the first nine months of General Grant's administration, and the saving is shown to be in the Navy Department alone \$3,621,822.

NAVY DEPARTMENT.			
1868.	Johnson.	1869.	Grant.
March.....	\$2,772,172 63	March.....	\$1,634,232 28
April.....	1,625,716 90	April.....	1,450,481 11
May.....	1,752,054 50	May.....	1,011,283 65
June.....	2,725,609 72	June.....	2,019,954 78
July.....	2,325,143 24	July.....	1,856,160 72
August.....	1,001,320 58	August.....	1,623,470 64
September.....	2,268,885 08	September.....	2,302,999 60
October.....	3,321,817 95	October.....	2,384,145 80
November.....	1,660,849 58	November.....	1,659,018 71
Total.....	\$19,463,570 18	Total.....	\$15,941,747 29

I have been a little careful upon this matter of the Navy because there has been an idea in the country—whether right or wrong I will not now discuss—that the late administration of the Navy Department was characterized by inefficiency and extravagance; and when the chairman of the Committee on Appropriations arraigns the present administration of the Navy Department, in comparison with that of the late Secretary, the country is at once aroused and shocked, because there, of all other places, the Republican party expected that Grant's administration would be an improvement.

THE board appointed by General Howard to investigate supposed frauds upon colored soldiers in Tennessee, has finished its work in that State, and reached Washington, and begun an examination of the records of the Treasury Department and of the Freedmen's Bureau for the purpose of tracing out matters developed by testimony taken in Tennessee. The existence of a wide-spread scheme for swindling in matters of back pay and bounty is established by evidence already obtained, but none of the prominent officials of the Bureau are implicated. It was discovered that at Nashville during the war, where negroes were largely employed in the hospitals, although large numbers of them signed pay-rolls every month, they never received any pay, but that it was appropriated by other parties. The same game was attempted with the force of negroes employed on the fortifications, though this does not appear to have succeeded. A number of claim agents and those implicated with them are to be examined.

M. O., L. L., U. S.

At a stated meeting of the Commandery of the State of Massachusetts, held at the Parker House, Boston, February 2d, the following-named candidates were duly elected companions of the first class of the order: Brevet Major-General George H. Gordon, late brigadier-general U. S. Volunteers; Second Lieutenant George Booth, late Ninth Battery Artillery, Massachusetts Volunteers; Brevet Colonel Theron E. Hall, late chief quartermaster Ninth Army Corps, U. S. Volunteers; Brevet Captain Ebenezer P. Mason, late first lieutenant First Connecticut Volunteers, Artillery; Captain Gustavus D. Bates, late Seventh Rhode Island Volunteers, Infantry; Captain Robert S. Oliver, late first lieutenant Eighth U. S. Cavalry; Brevet Captain Edward B. Robins, late first lieutenant Twentieth Massachusetts Volunteers, Infantry; Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Robert H. I. Goddard, late captain and aide-de-camp, Ninth Corps, staff Major-General A. E. Burnside; Captain Richard Robins, late Thirty-ninth U. S. Infantry.

A STATED meeting of the Commandery of the State of New York was held at Delmonico's, February 2, 1870. The following candidates for membership of the first class were balloted for and elected: Second Lieutenant Berthold Fernow, late Third U. S. colored troops; Brevet Colonel William C. Alberger, late lieutenant-colonel Forty-ninth New York Volunteers; Chief Engineer (commander) George Sewell, U. S. Navy; Surgeon Charles Henry White (lieutenant-commander), U. S. Navy.

THE London Army and Navy Gazette, writing of the diet of the British navy, incidentally to another discussion, says:

We consider the cooking arrangements in ships generally are capable of improvement, to the extent of some of the messes, in regular rotation, being allowed to vary the cooking of their meat by roasting, frying, etc.; that the modicum of cocoa before breakfast should be a matter of course, and not, as now, optional, which means too often never. And we should be glad to hear that it was possible to arrange the meals that the men might have something warm in the shape of tea, coffee, or chocolate, before turning in. In these days of soluble chocolate and essence of coffee, this desideratum might, we should think, be attained without any grievous addition to our national expenditure. Again, we are inclined to think that some encouragement should be given to temperance men, who should be allowed tea, coffee, or chocolate for their dinners, instead of the present penny a day in lieu of their grog. This would be a legitimate encouragement to temperance men, and, though we should be the last to advocate coercive measures to make men abstain, we are too alive to the advantages we should derive from a temperate navy, and too sensible of the miseries brought on by drunkenness, not to recognize the necessity of giving an encouraging hand to every sea man who will utterly cast aside that deadly enemy of his class, drink. One more recommendation we have to offer, that is, abolish the vicious system of issuing spirits to officers, but give them instead a daily allowance of sound, wholesome wine; and were this done, we are inclined to think that spirits might be altogether excluded from messes. We are aware that in suggesting, not without hesitation, this last notion, we are treading on dangerous ground, and laying ourselves open to be misunderstood; but, with the example of the United States Navy before our eyes, we are inclined to believe that officers would soon become reconciled to the regulation, especially if, as we suggest, a sound and wholesome wine were substituted for the present gill of rum, which has implanted a taste for spirits in many a young officer, and wrecked more careers, we suspect, than the winds and the waves. Startling as it may appear, we believe that far more lives in the navy are sacrificed to intemperance than are devoured by the elements, and, since the last great war, we might also throw in the rage of the enemy.

THE Secretary of War has submitted to the House of Representatives, in compliance with the request of the Committee on Military Affairs, the draught of a proposed bill, providing for the sale of the military arsenals at Rome, New York; Vergennes, Vermont; Fayetteville, North Carolina; Mount Vernon, Alabama; and Chattanooga, Florida; the proceeds of the sales, after paying the necessary expenses, to be reserved by the Secretary of War for the erection of such principal arsenal of construction and deposit on the Atlantic coast as may hereafter be by law established.

A BILL is before Congress to pay to George Wright the sum of fifteen hundred dollars, for the past and future use by the Government of the United States of his patent linchpin.

LETTERS IN THE NEW YORK POST-OFFICE.

The following is a list of letters remaining in the New York Post-office on the dates given. These letters are retained in the New York Office for one month from date, after which they are sent to the Dead-Letter Office, Washington.

ARMY.

FEBRUARY 3d.

Anderson, S. T., Colonel.	Hall, O. P., Captain.
Bell, M., Captain.	Hussey, E. A., Captain.
Bostock, Wm., Colonel.	Karples, H. M., Colonel.
Burton, R. L., General.	Prime, F. E., Colonel.
Fitzhugh, L. M., Colonel.	Still, James, Captain.
Hall, C. W., Colonel.	Wheeler, Joseph, General.

FEBRUARY 11th.

Almy, George B., Captain-3.	Kosebog, General.
Amos, A. H., Lieutenant-Col.	Morris, G., Captain.
Bray, B. M., Captain-2.	Packard, E. R., Captain.
Brown, G. W., Captain.	Riley, J., Captain-2.
Davis, H. B., Captain.	Sage, A. B., Colonel.
Davidson, A., Captain.	Sneed, T. L., Colonel.
Gomez, B., Captain.	Tucker, J. H., Colonel.
Hart, A. W., Colonel.	Tyler, Geo. F., Captain-2.
Heath, S. A., Major.	White, R. H., Colonel.

THE NATIONAL GUARD.

REORGANIZATION OF THE SECOND DIVISION.—We announced, a short time since, that the organization of this division would soon be effected in accordance with the requirements of the law reducing the forces of the National Guard of this State. This change has now been effected, and the subjoined order from State Headquarters, it will be seen, directs those changes which we advised a few weeks since. For the second time the Fifty-sixth regiment is disbanded, but it has only itself to blame. The State has always protected the interests of this command, and only last spring furnishing it with new uniforms and equipments; but it seems discipline could not be enforced, even by the most competent of officers, the members, as a rule, failing to perform their duties properly, and the authorities, therefore, have been obliged to step in and disband the whole organization. The other changes are altogether advisable.

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS STATE OF NEW YORK,
ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, ALBANY, Feb. 2, 1870.
General Orders No. 3.

Pursuant to the provisions of chapter 778 of the laws of 1869, requiring a reduction of the force of the National Guard, it is hereby ordered:

1st. That the Fifty-sixth regiment Infantry, of the Eleventh brigade, Second division, be disbanded, and that the companies be mustered out and all the officers rendered supernumerary.

2d. That the First Battalion Light Artillery, of the Fifth brigade, Second division, be disbanded, and the field and staff thereof rendered supernumerary; and that Batteries B and C of the same be mustered out; and that Battery A of the same be retained in the service, and report direct to headquarters of the Second division.

3d. That the Second regiment Cavalry, of the Fifth brigade, Second division, be disbanded, and the field and staff thereof rendered supernumerary; and that Troops H and E of the same be mustered out; and that Troops A, C, and D of the same be retained in the service as separate troops, and report direct to headquarters of the Second division.

4th. The provisions of General Orders No. 14, series of 1868, will be followed and govern in the disbandments and mustering out required by this order.

5th. Major-General John B. Woodward, commanding the Second division, is charged with the execution of this order.

By order of the Commander-in-Chief.

FRANKLIN TOWNSEND, Adjutant-General.

NINTH REGIMENT.—Last week we announced the rumored resignation of Brevet General J. H. Wilcox, the efficient commandant of this regiment, and at the same time stated, on what we considered the most reliable authority, that the name of the ex-lieutenant-colonel of the Thirty-seventh regiment was mentioned as that of his probable successor. Colonel Wilcox has forwarded his resignation; and having resigned twice previously, and both times only upon a strong pressure having reconsidered the action, the members feel now that this withdrawal is final, general as is the regret of the regiment. It is felt, however, that there are already in the regiment officers fully competent and willing to assume its command, and it is not intended to go outside to seek for a colonel. We fully concur in this feeling, and were surprised when we were informed that the selection of an outside officer was contemplated. Lieutenant-Colonel Braine and Major Seward still remain with the regiment, and will take command alternately at the division drills that are to take place this month. The regiment is hard at work, both officers and men, and some of the companies have been recruiting actively of late.

Company B, Captain Hitchcock, had quite a pleasant time on Monday evening at their company room, and entertained its friends with a sumptuous collation. Company H, Captain Schieffelin, will hold its annual ball on the 25th inst., and the various committees are working hard to make it a success.

SIXTH REGIMENT.—On the evening of the 4th inst. Company H of this regiment, Captain Max Zenn commanding, celebrated its sixteenth anniversary by an invitation *soiree* at the Germania Assembly Rooms, Bowery. The rooms were very handsomely decorated, and continued well filled until the close of the ball. During the festival Adjutant A. Shenfield, the chairman of the reception committee, and an old officer of the company, was presented by the members with an elegant gold regimental pin. This pin bears the State coat of arms, and a pendant consisting of the letter "H" and figure "6," the whole being of neat design, and the manufacture of Messrs. Austin & Son, Fifth avenue. Colonel Joel Mason made the presentation on behalf of the company. The entire field and nearly every line officer of the regiment was present, and the representatives from other regiments were numerous. Company H is to be congratulated on its sixteenth anniversary, and we hope all its future efforts may be as successful.

TWENTY-THIRD REGIMENT.—In accordance with orders, the members of this command assembled in full-dress uniform at the State Arsenal, Portland avenue, Brooklyn, on Monday evening last, for drill and instruction. Colonel R. C. Ward was in command, and the regiment paraded ten commands of eight files. After formation, the regiment was exercised in the manual, in which it showed a decided proficiency—"parade rest" being particularly noticeable for its correctness. The battalion movements, which followed, were mainly by division; and although at times several of the divisions, particularly on the left, became confused, yet the drill was eminently satisfactory, and very creditable to the command. The marchings were good, the steadiness of the men noticeably good, and the colonel careful and minute in instruction, and particular to see that his orders were obeyed.

The guide on the right, we may mention, was frequently out of step, and the alignment of officers was several times imperfect; but, barring these and a few other minor blemishes, the drill was the best we have witnessed in the division this season. The arsenal was well filled with spectators, a large portion of whom were ladies, who seemed to admire the elegant uniforms, as well as their wearers. On this evening more than usual interest was manifested in the proceedings, for it had been announced that a presentation would take place. The drill was closed with a dress parade, well conducted; after which Colonel Ward, on behalf of Brevet Captain and Adjutant Gregory, presented an elegant gold and enamelled medal, of beautiful design and workmanship, to Company C, this company having made the neatest and most correct returns and company records during the past year. Captain Bunker, the commandant of the company, received the medal on the part of the company, and it is to be worn by the first sergeant for one year. The medal is modelled after the cross of the Legion of Honor, and is a handsome ornament.

First Lieutenant Henry S. Manning has resigned, to date from January 18th. The following elections are announced: First Lieutenant John N. Partridge to be captain, vice Hoggins, resigned—rank, October 22, 1869; Sergeant Clarence W. Montgomery to be second lieutenant, vice Thompson, promoted—rank, November 5, 1869; First Lieutenant G. Frank Dickman to be captain, vice Webb, resigned—rank, December 1, 1869; Second Lieutenant Edward F. Davenport to be first lieutenant, vice Dickman, promoted—rank, December 1, 1869; Sergeant-Major Edward N. Norton to be second lieutenant, vice Davenport, promoted—rank, December 1, 1869. The following men have been expelled by a vote of their company, the same being approved by the colonel commanding: Robert Anderson, Company K, January 6, 1870; George B. Rowe, Company K, January 6, 1870; James H. Saunders, Company K, January 6, 1870.

SEVENTY-FIRST REGIMENT.—The Joint Committee on the State of the Regiment have issued a circular to the active and exempt members to the following effect:

Your representatives in this committee agreed at its last meeting to celebrate the coming anniversary of the birthday of *The Washington (sic)* by a full-dress hop at our armory. To insure its success, the following is published for your information, with the hope that you will assist with cheerfulness in the carrying out of this and such other portions of the programme as may be established. The tickets are limited to 1,000. Each ticket will admit but one person. No complimentary under any circumstances. No person will be admitted without a ticket. No tickets sold or money taken at the door. Tickets can be procured when ready, from any member of this committee, upon the payment of one dollar for each. As the number is limited, each company is appointed its quota, which cannot be increased, except from such as may not be taken by other companies. Members it is hoped will appear in full uniform, with waist belt only. Each member must endorse his name and company letters on the tickets issued to him. Guests will not wear hats or bonnets while on the floor. The programme, having received the approval of the commandant, will be rigidly enforced without regard to rank. Members of the Veteran Association will apply to their secretary, S. A. Bunce, Citizen's Savings Bank, 57 Bowery, for tickets. All tickets not applied for by the 15th inst. will be considered forfeited; you will therefore see the necessity of applying for them at once.

The committee from Board of Officers consists of E. S. Eunson, 340 Broadway, chairman; A. T. Francis, 30 Broad street, treasurer; E. V. Burk, 201 Centre street; J. N. Riggs, 11 Broad street, room 15. The representatives from companies are as follows: Wm. D. Hannon, 550 Broadway, Company A; Robert S. Orser, 49 Fulton street, Company B; Robert A. McLaren, 6 Warren street, Company C; Wm. Gallagher, 70 Broadway, Company D; A. S. Bennet, Company E; J. R. Peck, 47 Walker street, Company F; Robert A. Stephenson, Company G; H. M. H. Walker, 11 Broad street, room 15, Company H; Geo. I. Bascom, Fifth Avenue Hotel, Company I.

FORTY-SEVENTH REGIMENT.—This regiment assembled for drill at its armory, Fourth street, Brooklyn, E. D., on the evening of the 4th inst. The armory was well filled with the friends of the regiment, both ladies and gentlemen, who evidently anticipated a regular exhibition drill, to be followed by a dance. They soon found, however, that the evening was to be devoted to business, not pleasure. The regiment did not intend to offer what is termed an exhibition, but merely a drill, to which the public, who had previously been kept out, would be admitted. The regiment paraded eight commands of ten files, all fully equipped and in full-dress uniforms. Colonel Austin was in command, assisted by Lieutenant-Colonel Greey and Major Rogers. The main drill-room of the Forty-seventh is perhaps the largest in Brooklyn, yet it does not, by any means, admit of sufficient space for the satisfactory manoeuvring of so large a body of men as assembled on this evening, especially when spectators occupy a portion of it. The drill, therefore, seemed to us behind the average of the regiment's capabilities. It is but just to say, however, that but two battalion drills had preceded, and in those most of the time had been spent in the exercise of the manual of arms, in which, on this occasion, the regiment gave a very fair exhibition. The movements were necessarily few, the main portion of the drill consisting in the marchings by fours and division, the alignments being generally well preserved, but distance not good. Not a few of the line officers gave indication of a rustiness, which we hope they will brighten away before another drill. The captain of the right company is open to severe censure for the many errors committed during the drill; the commandant of the regiment had to instruct him personal-

ly no less than three times, in order to insure the proper execution of the movements. This captain is one of the best of executive officers, and is well liked, we learn, throughout the regiment; yet on several occasions he has displayed similar inattention—inattention we suppose we must call it, for we must infer that a senior officer is well versed in the tactics; if he is not, who of the line officers should be? The men marched well and were very steady, which, under the circumstances, was highly commendable. Colonel Austin, perhaps, is one of the most competent of instructors; still, we cannot say we liked his dictatorial tone of voice when exercising his authority. This is sure to make any officer unpopular in the National Guard; neither officers nor men of the class of which the Forty-seventh is composed like the idea of being made conspicuous before a large assemblage, especially where ladies predominate. As to the adjutant, let us advise him to infuse a little more spirit into both his voice and movements. The turnout was a fine one. There is a manifest desire among the men to procure new uniforms. The regiment is thriving well in recruiting; two companies, we hear, are about to be organized from the now disbanded Fifty-sixth regiment.

This regiment is ordered to assemble at the armory (in fatigue uniform, members only admitted), for drill and instruction, as follows: Right wing (Companies G, I, D, and E), on Tuesday, February 15th, and Monday, February 28th; left wing (Companies C, F, B, and A), on Thursday, February 17th, and Friday, March 4th, all at 8 o'clock p. m. The regiment will also assemble for the same purpose, in dress uniform (armory open for visitors), as follows: Right wing, on Tuesday, March 8th; left wing, on Thursday, March 10th, at 7:45 p. m. On Wednesday evenings, March 16th, March 30th, and April 20th, both wings of the command will assemble for drill at the regimental armory. The following expulsions are approved by the colonel commanding: Henry Watson, Edward Wall, George A. Dugan, all of Company A.

STATE EXAMINING BOARD.—General Orders from State General Headquarters announce and approve the following recommendations of the Military Examining Board, sitting at Albany, January 19th:

I. That the commissions of the following-named officers be vacated for disobedience of the orders of the Commander-in-Chief, in not appearing for examination, viz: Captain Patrick McDermott, Company D, Sixty-ninth regiment; Captain M. O'Rourke, Company G, Sixty-ninth regiment; First Lieutenant Frederick Vass, Company C, Sixty-ninth regiment; Second Lieutenant James Hughes, Company F, Sixty-ninth regiment.

2. That the commission of Captain Thomas F. Gilroy, Eighth regiment, be vacated for not appearing for examination at the extended time granted him by the board.

3. That the commission of Second Lieutenant James Golden, Twenty-fourth regiment, be vacated for declining to submit to examination.

II. Commanding officers will as soon as practicable order elections to fill the vacancies hereby created.

III. So much of General Orders No. 1, current series, from these headquarters, as vacates the commission of Second Lieutenant John Egan, Company C, Sixty-ninth regiment, is hereby revoked, he having been honorably discharged the service, October 9, 1869, on tender of resignation.

NEW YORK SCHUTZEN CORPS.—The annual *soiree* of this corps will be held on the 25th inst. at Irving Hall. Captain John F. Gerdes is the commandant, and Mr. B. H. Tienken the secretary of the organization. The festivals of this corps are merry affairs.

TWENTY-SECOND REGIMENT.—Only such inducements as this fine command invariably offers could possibly have attracted so large and elegant a company as that which assembled at the Academy of Music on Tuesday evening last. There have been many and various balls at the Academy this season, ranging from the French *caneen* affairs to the stately charity ball; but this grand military "reception" compared well with the best of them in the elegance of its company, and shamed the coarse gayety of the *bals masques* by the quiet and pervasive enjoyment of the evening. In New York now the utmost caution is necessary, when an organization gives a public ball, to prevent the intrusion of obnoxious characters; but on this occasion, it is due to the Twenty-second to say, the arrangements were admirable in this respect. At about 10 o'clock the Academy building began to fill with ladies in elegant toilets, and men in gay uniforms, until soon the floor, as viewed from the dress circle, became crowded with beauty and grace. The decorations were simple, yet beautiful in their effects; the rear of the stage presented a military scene, with stacks of muskets, small flags, etc., over which clusters of gas jets were suspended in form of the regimental pin, on either side the figures "1861" and "1870." The regimental band, augmented to the number of one hundred pieces, under the leadership of the Dodworths, were, as usual, equally divided for promenading and dancing purposes, and stationed in either gallery. The inspiring strains kept the assembly in motion to dance or promenade, until the last gallop at 2 o'clock closed the evening's entertainment. Conspicuous among the many uniforms present were those of a delegation of officers of the Providence Light Infantry, who were the special guests of the Twenty-second. Early in the evening Captain Dennis, the commandant of the Providence company, formally presented to the Board of Officers a set of resolutions, expressive of the Light Infantry's appreciation of the courtesies extended to it on the occasion of its visit to New York last October. At the same time, a fine framed photograph of the members of the Light Infantry was presented to Company G of the regiment. The resolutions were in a frame of the shape of the company pin of the infantry, and was much admired during

the evening as it hung in the lobby of the building. Conspicuous also on the walls was another set of resolutions, shortly to be presented to the Light Infantry, on the part of Company G of the Twenty-second. Distinguished guests were never more numerous, both of a civil and military character. There was scarcely an organization in the First or the other divisions of the National Guard unrepresented, and there were several prominent officers of the Army and Navy present. The management of the ball was exceedingly skillful, the various committees faithfully performing their duties. We were especially pleased to observe the quiet dignity and order prevailing in the committee room. In every respect, Colonel Porter and the members of the regiment have reason to feel proud of their ball.

FIRST BRIGADE CAVALRY.—The several squadrons of this brigade have been ordered by General Postley, the brigade commander, to assemble for mounted drill within the brigade riding school, Nos. 11, 13, 15, and 17 West Thirteenth street. Next week the following squadrons will assemble: at 8 o'clock P. M. on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, Squadrons A, B, and C, of the First regiment; and on Tuesday and Thursday, Squadrons B and C of the Third regiment. The drills of the squadrons of these regiments will continue on alternate evenings until April next.

THE FIRST DIVISION PARADE GROUND.—The bill providing for a parade ground for this division, by extending Central Park northward, has been introduced in the Senate, and referred to the appropriate committee. The major-general commanding, Generals Burger and Varian, Colonel Fowler, and other officers of the division, attended a meeting of the committee on Tuesday afternoon, by appointment, and argued the necessity for the parade ground, and discussed the proposed location. The committee appeared to be favorably impressed, and there are good reasons for believing that the project will be successful. The proposed parade ground will be about seventy acres in extent, and bounded by One Hundred and Tenth and One Hundred and Sixteenth streets, and Fifth and Eighth avenues.

THIRTEENTH REGIMENT.—In spite of the driving storm of Tuesday evening, the first annual ball of the drum corps, Major Smith commanding, was very fairly attended. If the weather had been better it would have been a complete success, for tickets enough had been sold to fill the ball-room. Peculiarly, we are happy to hear, it was a marked success; and socially, too, for those who did come thoroughly enjoyed the occasion. Between the tenth and eleventh dances of the programme the drum corps gave the "tattoo" in excellent style, giving evidence of careful instruction. A large number of officers of the regiment were present, among them Lieutenant-Colonel Briggs, Major Daniell, Captains Lefferts and Powell, Commissary Scrymger, Lieutenants Nash, Pedroncelli, and others. The programme was prepared in the form of a miniature drum, and very neat.

The preparations for the grand regimental reception on the 21st, at the Academy of Music, are about completed, and very if any tickets now remain unsold.

TWELFTH REGIMENT.—Drills by battalion took place in this regiment, at the State Arsenal, on the evenings of the 31st ult. and 2d inst.; on the first named evening the right wing, consisting of Companies A, C, E, F, and I, and on the 2d inst. the left wing, Companies B, D, G, H, and K. On both occasions the wings were consolidated into four commands of twelve files front, Colonel John Ward being in command, assisted by Major Howe and the adjutant. Line was formed at about 8 o'clock, and the exercises comprised the manual, loadings and firings, and general battalion movements. The first portion, the manual of arms, was fairly performed, but is open to improvement; Companies E and G, however, are entitled to credit for manifest superiority in this portion of the drill, particularly the former company in its loadings and firings. At the right wing drill the commandants of the two right companies displayed carelessness in the handling of their commands, particularly in the case of the right company as regards the cadence of the step. At the drill of the left wing, the left company was very faulty, and should be taught to pay better attention to the orders, as its inattention at times seriously marred the movements. The movements on these evenings were, as a rule, by the left, a plan but seldom adopted by commandants, for some reason or other. Colonel Ward, who, by the way, is a careful instructor, deserves credit for being among the first to change the old routine of movements by the right to those by the left, thereby overcoming their awkwardness by continuous practice. The Twelfth, though we must criticize some details, continues to improve in its drill, and the improvement ought to be rapid under the frequent and careful instruction it is receiving.

On the 15th inst. Company H will hold its third annual ball at the regimental armory, corner of Fourth street and Broadway. Company H is one of the social companies of the regiment, and draws to its entertainments an agreeable assembly of people. Captain Geo. Teets and Lieutenant Thos. Carroll, who are on the reception committee, are hosts in themselves.

On Tuesday evening last Company G, Captain Charles I. McGowan commanding, held its annual invitation reception at the regimental armory, corner of Fourth street and Broadway, and, despite the severe storm, it was an entire success. The otherwise bare walls of the main drill room were covered in profusion with bunting, transforming it into an ele-

gant ball room. The orchestra was good, the dancing spirited, and the company gay and handsome. The officers of the regiment were very generally present; among them Colonel Ward, Captain French, Lieutenant Wilson, Quartermaster Riker, and others. Major Gilon, of the First brigade staff, and the former commandant of the company, was chairman of the reception committee. Captain McGowan, the floor manager, was unfortunately absent on account of sudden illness, but the ten assistants performed their duties with entire satisfaction. Lieutenants Jones and Walker, of the executive committee, were active in the management of the reception, which, as a whole, was one of the pleasantest reunions the company has ever held.

We omitted to state that prominent among the many decorations was an elegant and life-like portrait of Colonel Ward, the property of Adjutant Murphy, and loaned for the occasion.

HOWITZER BATTERY, ELEVENTH BRIGADE.—The officers and non-commissioned officers of this command are ordered to assemble at the State Arsenal, Portland avenue, Brooklyn, on Friday evening, the 18th inst., at 8 o'clock, in full fatigue, for drill and instruction. At the regular monthly meeting of this battery, held at No. 9 Court street, Brooklyn, on Monday evening, an election for non-commissioned officers was held to fill vacancies. Clinton C. Veber was elected sergeant, vice R. Beebe, Jr., resigned; Henry C. Simons, first corporal, and Private Frank A. Morrell, second corporal.

HEREAFTER the list of changes in the personnel of the National Guard will be published weekly in the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL.

A CHALLENGE.—We have received the following letter from the famous "Lightning Drillist," Sergeant Burk, who is anxious to enter into a competition with some member of the National Guard in the exercise of the manual of arms, in accordance with Upton's Tactics:

NEW YORK, February 9, 1870.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: Understanding that considerable discussion is at present going on in military circles in regard to individual proficiency in the manual, and also that many officers and members have taken the liberty to criticize my manual as not being according to text, I would be pleased to accept any challenge from any member of the National Guard to a competitive drill in the manual, for \$100 to \$1,000 a side, the book to be authority, and the arm to be used the Springfield rifle musket, U. S. Army regulation. I remain yours respectfully,

SERGEANT BURK,

Champion Lightning Drillist of the World, ex-member of Seventy-first and Eighty-fourth regiments Infantry, N. Y. S. N. G., 218 East Thirty-fourth street, New York.

OTHER STATES.

NEW JERSEY.—Hoboken.—The second annual ball of Company C of the First battalion will occur at Odd Fellows' Hall on the 22d inst. It is expected that an event of a pleasing and surprising character will take place prior to the dancing.

MASSACHUSETTS.—Peabody Guard.—The first annual military and civic concert and ball of this command, was given at the City Hall, Springfield, on Thursday evening last. The music was rendered by the United States military band from West Point Academy, George H. Hubbard prompter, and the hall filled to repletion with an elegant company. A large number of Regular Army officers were present, and the pleasant reunion of the Guard was a gratifying success.

CHANGES IN THE NATIONAL GUARD.

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS S. N. Y.,

ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, ALBANY, Feb. 1, 1870.

The following-named persons have been commissioned by the Commander-in-Chief in the N. G. S. N. Y. during the month ending January 31, 1870:

SECOND DIVISION.

H. Herbert Hogins, aide-de-camp, with rank of captain, January 4, 1870. Original vacancy.

FIFTH DIVISION.

Richard R. Hayman, aide-de-camp, with rank of major, January 21, 1870, vice Arthur W. Thomas, failed to qualify.

CAVALRY BRIGADE.

Robert W. Leonard, assistant adjutant-general, with rank of major, January 26, 1870, vice F. S. Heiser, resigned.

SEVENTH BRIGADE.

Edwin F. Cole, engineer, with rank of major, December 15, 1869, vice James W. Bedell, promoted.

EIGHTH BRIGADE.

Cornelius Plaster, commissary, with rank of captain, December 23, 1869, vice Sylvester S. Baldwin, resigned.

THIRTY-FIRST BRIGADE.

William G. Fargo, Jr., aide-de-camp, with rank of captain, January 1, 1870, vice Wm. S. Sizer, resigned.

FIRST REGIMENT OF CAVALRY.

William E. De Vries, second lieutenant, September 20, 1869, vice George Aery, appointed commissary of subsistence.

TROOP—WASHINGTON GRAY CAVALRY.

Effingham M. Van Buren, first lieutenant, January 5, 1870. Original vacancy.

BATTALION ARTILLERY, TWENTY-FOURTH BRIGADE.

John Demong, major, January 8, 1870, vice Jacob Brand, resigned.

SECOND REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

Thomas S. Barber, captain, September 24, 1869, vice Sylvester Murphy, resigned.

Samuel Smith, first lieutenant, September 24, 1869, vice James Kelly, dismissed.

Walter Powers, second lieutenant, September 24, 1869, vice Samuel Smith, promoted.

Henry A. Maxwell, captain, October 7, 1869, vice John W. Leonard, resigned.

FIFTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

Peter Krueger, lieutenant-colonel, December 21, 1869, vice Joseph Hillenbrand, resigned.

SIXTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

John C. Offinger, captain, September 20, 1869, vice Wm. Syring, resigned.

William Kopp, first lieutenant, September 20, 1869, vice J. C. Offinger, promoted.

Nelson G. Peterson, second lieutenant, September 20, 1869, vice A. Shappel, resigned.

Moritz J. Schenck, first lieutenant, January 3, 1870, vice Anton Wilsbach, resigned.

Abram Schenck, adjutant, January 13, 1870, vice R. B. Kinney, resigned.

NINTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

Louis C. Hamersly, captain, December 6, 1869, vice Henry H. Brooks, resigned.

William H. Cadwell, second lieutenant, December 17, 1869, vice Theodore W. Myers, resigned.

ELEVENTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

Max Ebler, first lieutenant, December 23, 1869, vice Gustav Recklin, resigned.

John Klein, captain, December 17, 1869, vice G. Schlichter, resigned.

Conrad Von Gerichten, first lieutenant, December 17, 1869, vice Charles Kopf, failed to qualify.

Andrew Ott, second lieutenant, December 17, 1869, vice C. Von Gerichten, promoted.

TWELFTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

Charles Greer, first lieutenant, December 10, 1869, vice George S. Burger, resigned.

THIRTEENTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

Frederick A. Mason, colonel, December 8, 1869, vice Thos. S. Dakin, promoted.

Philip H. Briggs, lieutenant-colonel, December 8, 1869, vice Frederick A. Mason, promoted.

Edward S. Daniell, major, December 8, 1869, vice Philip H. Briggs, promoted.

Thomas M. Hempstead, captain, December 15, 1869, vice Henry Baladen, resigned.

Lefferts L. Laidlaw, first lieutenant, December 15, 1869, vice Thomas M. Hempstead, promoted.

George W. Hempton, second lieutenant, December 15, 1869, vice L. L. Laidlaw, promoted.

Wm. Barnett, captain, December 7, 1869, vice Edward S. Daniell, promoted.

John H. Hunter, first lieutenant, December 7, 1869, vice William Barnett, promoted.

J. Halstead Carroll, chaplain, January 7, 1870, vice Henry M. Storms, term expired.

TWENTY-THIRD REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

John A. Partridge, captain, October 22, 1869, vice H. Herbert Hogins, resigned.

G. Frank Dickman, captain, December 1, 1869, vice James E. Webb, resigned.

Edward F. Davenport, first lieutenant, December 1, 1869, vice G. F. Dickman, promoted.

Edward N. Norton, second lieutenant, December 1, 1869, vice E. F. Davenport, promoted.

Clarence W. Montgomery, second lieutenant, November 5, 1869, vice John Thompson, promoted.

TWENTY-EIGHTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

John Schweizer, first lieutenant, December 23, 1869, vice Valentine Schenck, resigned.

George Williams, second lieutenant, September 28, 1869, vice John Schweizer, promoted.

THIRTY-SECOND REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

George Ross, first lieutenant, November 4, 1869, vice Frederick Hildebrandt, resigned.

Celestine Simon, second lieutenant, November 4, 1869, vice Geo. Ross, promoted.

THIRTY-SEVENTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

Thomas Freeborn, colonel, January 6, 1870, vice Francis W. Leggett, resigned.

FORTY-SEVENTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

Thomas B. Kniffen, quartermaster, January 5, 1870, vice George W. Head, resigned.

Charles W. Hayes, commissary of subsistence, January 5, 1870, vice T. B. Kniffen, promoted.

FIFTY-FIRST REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

Gretney Williams, second lieutenant, December 23, 1869, vice John McDonald, resigned.

FIFTY-FIFTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

August P. Wagener, second lieutenant, December 3, 1869, vice A. F. Kraus, resigned.

John J. Gutweiler, second lieutenant, December 9, 1869, vice Jacob Beasinger, promoted.

Jacob Beasinger, first lieutenant, December 9, 1869, vice John McBride, removed from State.

FIFTY-SIXTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

James J. Boylan, second lieutenant, October 30, 1869, vice Amos Allen, Jr., resigned.

SEVENTY-FIRST REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

Augustus T. Francis, adjutant, November 24, 1869, reappointed.

Thomas Lynch Raymond, quartermaster, November 24, 1869, reappointed.

Charles E. Shade, commissary of subsistence, November 24, 1869, reappointed.

Marvin S. Butties, surgeon, November 24, 1869, reappointed.

Alfred Starr, assistant surgeon, November 24, 1869, reappointed.

Eastburn Benjamin, chaplain, November 24, 1869, reappointed.

James S. Turner, captain, December 9, 1869, vice O. P. Smith, resigned.

Edwin C. Imlay, first lieutenant, December 9, 1869, vice J. S. Turner, promoted.

Charles E. Brown, second lieutenant, December 9, 1869, vice E. C. Imlay, promoted.

EIGHTY-FOURTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

George W. Adams, first lieutenant, December 14, 1869, vice Geo. H. Friere, resigned.

Thomas Garson, second lieutenant, December 14, 1869, vice Geo. W. Adams, promoted.

NINETY-SIXTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

Peter Hammer, major, December 30, 1869, vice A. Stauf, promoted.

RESIGNATIONS.

The following resignations of officers have been accepted during the same period:

FIRST BRIGADE.

James E. Montgomery, assistant adjutant-general, January 26, 1870.

SECOND BRIGADE.

Philip J. Jonchimsen, judge-advocate, January 6, 1870.

John M. C. Frolich, assistant adjutant-general, January 17, 1870.

THIRD BRIGADE.

O. S. Pa'ne, hospital surgeon, January 26, 1870.

CAVALRY BRIGADE.

F. S. Heiser, assistant adjutant-general, January 26, 1870.

BATTALION ARTILLERY.

William Horsley, second lieutenant, January 17, 1870.

Frederick Auer, adjutant, January 29, 1870.

EIGHTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

Wm. E. Chapin, first lieutenant, January 17, 1870.

TWELFTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

George Teets, captain, January 6, 1870.

Robert D. NeSmith, surgeon, January 6, 1870.

Knox McAfee, lieutenant-colonel, January 20, 1870.

TWENTY-SECOND REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

Robert Pardow, Jr., commissary, January 20, 1870.

TWENTY-THIRD REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

H. S. Manning, first lieutenant, January 15, 1870.

TWENTY-FOURTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

Albert W. Scribner, second lieutenant, January 8, 1870.

THIRTY-SEVENTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

John Fullager, captain, January 21, 1870.

Charles Hall, first lieutenant, January 26, 1870.

Hamlet Hart, second lieutenant, January 29, 1870.

James A. Whelan, first lieutenant, January 29, 1870.

Albert Burton, second lieutenant, January 29, 1870.

John H. Cole, second lieutenant, January 29, 1870.

FORTY-FOURTH REGIMENT OF INFANTRY.

Theo. F. McDonald, captain, January 26, 1870.

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It is to be distinctly understood that no guarantee will be given to purchasers of articles offered for sale and noted in the catalogue, as regards their exact condition or quality; but it is believed, however, that everything offered for sale is as represented.

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10,000 Barnsley Sheetting Frocks.
10,000 Blue Flannel Overshirts.
10,000 pairs Canvas Duck Trousers.
10,000 Blue Cloth Caps.

One-half the amount required of each of the above-named articles must be delivered at the New York Navy-yard, and the balance to be delivered, in equal proportions, at the Boston and Philadelphia Navy-yards.

The clothing must be delivered, one-third within sixty days, and the balance within ninety days from the date of the contract, and must pass the usual inspection, and be equal in quality of material, pattern, style, and make, to the samples at the New York, Philadelphia, and Boston Navy-yards, and at this Bureau.

The flannel, nankin collars of the sheetting frocks and overshirts, and the cloth for caps, must be dark blue and pure indigo dye. The nankin collars of the sheetting frocks must be of the same quality and color as that on the flannel overshirts.

For description of the articles and schedule of sizes bidders are referred to the Inspectors at the Navy-yards above mentioned.

Offers may be made for one or more articles, at the option of the bidder, and in case more than one article is contained in the offer, the Chief of the Bureau will have the right to accept one or more of the articles contained in such offer, and reject the remainder.

Bonds, with approved security, will be required, in one quarter the estimated amount of the contract, and twenty per cent. in addition will be withheld from the amount of each payment as collateral security for the due performance of the contract, which reservation will not be paid until the contract is fully complied with.

Every offer must be accompanied by a written guarantee, signed by one or more responsible persons, that the bidder or bidders will, if his or their bid be accepted, enter into an obligation within five days, with good and sufficient sureties, to furnish the articles proposed.

No proposal will be considered unless accompanied by such guarantee, nor from any parties who are not bona fide manufacturers of or regular dealers in the articles they offer to furnish, in conformity with the second section of the joint resolution, approved March 3, 1863.

The Department reserves the right to reject any proposal unless the responsibility of the guarantee is certified to by the Assessor of Internal Revenue for the district in which they reside; and unless the license required by act of Congress is furnished with the proposal, as well as to reject any proposal not considered advantageous to the Government.

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A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER,
DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF THE
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